

The State of Washington



Proclamation

WHEREAS, sleepiness, whether the result of an untreated sleep disorder or volitional sleep-deprivation, has been identified as a causal factor in the growing number of highway automobile crashes and on-the-job accidents; and

WHEREAS, lack of sleep has serious consequences at home, in the workplace, at school, and on our roadways and highways – tragically, drowsy driving accidents claims many lives and injures thousands of Americans each year; and

WHEREAS, like alcohol and drugs, sleep loss or fatigue impairs driving skills such as hand-eye coordination, reaction time, vision, awareness of surroundings, decision-making, judgement, and inhibition; and

WHEREAS, nationwide, drowsy driving causes more than 100,000 crashes a year, with 40,000 injuries and 1,550 fatalities, and in Washington State from 2011 through 2015, there were 64 fatal collisions and 308 serious injury collisions investigated where a drowsy driver was involved; and

WHEREAS, traffic crashes are the leading cause of death of young people in the United States, taking the lives of more than 5,000 teens each year; and

WHEREAS, Drowsy Driving Awareness and Prevention Week is a far-reaching public awareness campaign developed to educate young drivers, their parents, and others about the dangers of drowsy driving and how to prevent it;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Jay Inslee, Governor of the state of Washington, do hereby proclaim November 5-12, 2017 as

Drowsy Driving Awareness and Prevention Week

in Washington, and I encourage all people in our state to join me in this special observance.

Signed this 25th day of October, 2017

Handwritten signature of Jay Inslee in blue ink.

Governor Jay Inslee

