

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, each year, drowsy driving crashes result in more than 100,000 accidents each year in the U.S., and at least 1,550 deaths, 71,000 injuries, and \$12.5 billion in monetary loss, including 16 deaths and 60 serious injuries in Washington State in 2010; 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 6-13, 2016 as

Drowsy Driving Awareness and Prevention Week

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



Signed this 1st day of November, 2016

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Jay Inslee".

Governor Jay Inslee