

The State of Washington



Proclamation

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

WHEREAS, lack of sleep has serious consequences at home, in the workplace, at school, and on roadways – tragically, drowsy driving 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, judgment and inhibition; and

WHEREAS, each year drowsy driving crashes result in at least 1,550 deaths, 71,000 injuries, and \$12.5 billion in monetary losses; 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 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 its prevention;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Jay Inslee, Governor of the state of Washington, do hereby proclaim November 2-9, 2014 as

Drowsy Driving Prevention Week

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

Signed this 31st day of October, 2014

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

Governor Jay Inslee

