

Official Statement

WHEREAS, Connecticut actively supports and promotes local and national efforts and legislation to improve safety in work zones for everyone traveling or working on its roadways; and

WHEREAS, in 2008 nationwide, 720 workers and motorists were killed in highway work zones and more than 40,000 were injured. Eighty-five percent of those killed in work zones were drivers or their passengers; and

WHEREAS, in Connecticut for 2008 there were 1077 construction or maintenance related crashes that resulted in 7 driver and passenger fatalities, and included 24 pedestrians injured while directing traffic, working in the road or performing emergency services; and

WHEREAS, the Federal Highway Administration supports efforts to improve Work Zone Safety through a multi-faceted approach in the fields of engineering, education, enforcement, and coordination with public safety agencies; and

WHEREAS, The Work Zone Safety Awareness Campaign promotes partnerships with federal, state, local, business and communities to support activities that raise public consciousness about the need for driving safely in work zones; and

WHEREAS, Connecticut has passed legislation to improve safety for workers, public safety officers and motor vehicle operators in the state's highway work zones and established the Highway Work Zone Advisory Council to recommend safety improvements in work zones through innovative technology, work zone design, training, education and enforcement

WHEREAS, the efforts of the State with support from its safety partners and the transportation community will result in a further decline in fatalities and serious injuries; and the use of effective work zone strategies that address the safety and mobility needs of road users, workers, and others will reduce congestion and crashes in and around work zones;

THEREFORE, I, M. JODI RELL, Governor of the State of Connecticut, do hereby officially proclaim the week of April 19 through April 23, 2010, as

WORK ZONE SAFETY AWARENESS WEEK
in the State of Connecticut