**A PROCLAMATION LETTER**



**[Insert Address Block]**

Dear **[Insert Governor, Mayor, etc.]**,

I am writing to encourage you to issue a proclamation declaring September 16 to September 22, 2012, as “Child Passenger Safety Week” in **[Insert City/State]**.

Every year, thousands of children are tragically injured or killed in motor vehicle traffic crashes. In fact, motor vehicle crashes are the leading cause of death in the United States for children ages 1 to 13.

Sponsored by the U.S. Department of Transportation’s National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, during Child Passenger Safety Week each year, hundreds of certified child passenger safety technicians are available at convenient local sites across the country to provide car seat inspections to parents and caregivers. Hands-on advice and instruction is also given on how to choose the right car seat and use it correctly.

Sadly, most kids are not as secure in cars as they should be because their car seats are not being properly used, according to a NHTSA study. This misuse places children at a tremendous and unnecessary risk when traveling. Many parents and caregivers also move their children up to the next restraint type too soon. That’s why hands-on inspections and instruction is so important. Parents and caregivers need to make certain they and their kids are buckled up properly on every trip, every time. Proper use of car seats, booster seats, and seat belts will help reduce the number of deaths and injuries occurring on America’s roadways.

We hope you will grant us the honor of such a proclamation, as recognition of its importance is critical to the safety of our most precious resource, our children.

 Sincerely,

**[Insert Name]**

 Enclosure