

☞ PROCLAMATION ☞

WHEREAS, nearly 6000 people die from job-related injuries, never returning home from work, and 4.4 million more suffer occupational injuries and illnesses each year in the U.S.; and

WHEREAS, businesses spend approximately \$170 billion a year on costs associated with occupational injuries, health care and illnesses – costs that take away from company profits, research and growth; and

WHEREAS, occupational safety, health and environmental professionals work every day to identify hazards and implement safety and health advances in all industries and workplaces, with the goal of eliminating workplace fatalities, injuries and illnesses; and

WHEREAS, indirect tangible costs of injuries may be as much as 20 times the direct costs, including accident investigation, retraining workers, repairs and production delays, while the intangible costs of losing a loved one, friend, or coworker go beyond the price tag; and

WHEREAS, studies show that for every dollar invested in a work safety and health program, three to six dollars are saved as injuries, illnesses, and fatalities decline, medical costs and workers compensation costs decrease and productivity increases; and

WHEREAS, the more than 32,000 members of the 99-year-old American Society of Safety Engineers are occupational safety, health and environmental practitioners committed to protecting people, property and the environment; and

WHEREAS, the theme for the week of May 2-8, 2010, **North American Occupational Safety and Health Week** is "Mission NAOSH: Safe Workplaces"; and

WHEREAS, during NAOSH Week 2010, American Society of Safety Engineers members and corporate/association partners will mobilize countrywide in an effort to increase the public's awareness of the importance of occupational safety and health; and

WHEREAS, on May 6, 2009, occupational safety and health professionals will be recognized during **Occupational Safety and Health Professional Day** for the work they do to keep people safe at work, building an effective safety culture at their company, preserving a company's good reputation, employee pride, and helping their communities.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Donna Hart, Mayor of St. Cloud, Florida, do hereby commend occupational safety practitioners for their ongoing commitment to protecting people, property, and the environment and commend those businesses that incorporate occupational safety and health into their business strategies.



In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand and caused this seal to be affixed

Donna Hart

Attest: *Janet P. Jaworski*

Date: *April 23, 2010*