

NORTH AMERICAN OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY AND HEALTH WEEK

WHEREAS, nearly 6000 people died from job-related injuries, 17 people a day, in the U.S. in 2008, and 4.4 million more suffered occupational injuries and illnesses and to continue to keep workplace safety moving forward, as just a few decades ago in 1933 it was reported that 17,000 people died from on-the-job injuries in the U.S., and, between 1906 and 1911, 13,228 miners died from on the job injuries; and

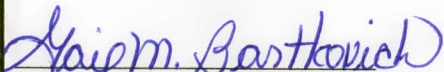
WHEREAS, in the recent past, businesses have spent about \$170 billion a year on costs associated with occupational injuries, health care and illnesses and about \$1 billion every week to injured employees and their medical providers – costs that take away from company profits, research and growth-- costs that continue to go up as cuts in safety are being made; indirect tangible costs of injuries may be as much as 20 times the direct costs, including costs from accident investigation, low employee morale, retraining workers, repairs and production delays, while the intangible costs of losing a loved one, a friend and a co-worker go beyond a price tag. Studies show that for every \$1 invested in a work safety and health program, \$3-6 are saved as injuries, illnesses and fatalities decline, medical costs and workers compensation costs decrease and productivity increases; and


WHEREAS, occupational safety, health and environmental professionals work every day so that millions of people go to and leave work injury free, by identifying hazards and solutions, and implementing safety and health advances in all industries and at all workplaces aimed at eliminating workplace fatalities, injuries and illnesses; 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 urge employers to continue to invest in effective workplace safety programs as money cut from safety processes now can have an enormous cost later -- from higher injury and health care costs, fines, lost production time, employee morale, or worst of all, employee injury or death – the costs of cutting safety – both tangible and intangible – are too high and hard to recoup; and

WHEREAS, the Wicomico County Council recognizes the week of May 2 – 8, 2010, as North American Occupational Safety and Health (NAOSH) Week, American Society of Safety Engineers members and corporate/association partners will mobilize countrywide in an effort to increase employers', employees' and the public's awareness of the importance of occupational safety and health to workers returning home injury and illness free each day to their families; to raise the awareness of the role and contribution of safety, health and environmental professionals; encouraging safe practices; and to help companies and organizations enhance their workplace safety efforts; and

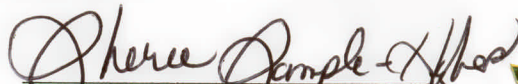
WHEREAS, on the Wicomico County Council recognizes May 5th as Occupational Safety and Health Professionals Day for the work they do to keep people safe at work, building an effective safety culture at their company, preserving a company's good reputation, employee pride, and helping their communities and encourages the citizens of Wicomico County to join in this effort.



Gail M. Bartkovich, President



John T. Cannon, At-Large


Stevie Prettyman, District 2


Joe Holloway, District 5


Sherée Sample-Hughes, Vice President


William R. McCain, At-Large


David A. MacLeod, District 4

