



## Proclamation

10-04

**Whereas**, nearly 6,000 people die 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

**Whereas**, 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 are being made; and

**Whereas**, 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; and

**Whereas**, 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**, last year during the economic downturn one state was able to realize for 700 of its businesses participating in a state workers compensation program a \$14,518,788 million retrospective return based on the combined efforts of employers, employees, occupational safety and health professionals and state insurance professionals working together to make the state a safer place to work and live, the participants noted that attention to safety does pay great dividends, regardless of the state of the economy; 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 American Society of Safety Engineers and occupational safety, health and environmental practitioners are committed to protecting people, property and the environment, they urge employers to continue to invest in effective workplace safety programs as money cuts from safety processes can have an enormous cost later such as higher health care costs, fines, lost production time and employee morale, or worst of all, employee injury or death; and

**Whereas**, during the week of May 2-8, 2010, 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; and

**Whereas**, on May 5 occupational safety and health professionals will be recognized during the 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

**Now, therefore**, be it resolved that I, John Rees, Mayor of the City of Winter Garden, Florida, do hereby proclaim May 2 - 8, 2010 as

***“North American Occupational Safety and Health Week”***

and do hereby proclaim May 5, 2010 as

***“Occupational Safety and Health Professional Day”***

and to encourage everyone to be safe at work.

**In witness thereof**, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the City Seal to be affixed this 22nd day of April, 2010.

**Mayor John Rees**