

MEMORANDUM
OFFICE OF THE
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF PLACER

TO: Honorable Board of Supervisors
FROM: Mike Boyle, Assistant County Executive Officer *MB*
DATE: April 7, 2009

SUBJECT: PROCLAMATION - Approve a Proclamation declaring April 19 – 25, 2009 as, "Safety Seat Checkup Week" in the County of Placer.

ACTION REQUESTED

Approve a Proclamation declaring April 19 – 25, 2009 as, "Safety Seat Checkup Week" in the County of Placer.

BACKGROUND/COMMUNITY BENEFITS

The Board is being asked to support the statewide movement to educate and inspire the public about the importance of the correct and consistent use of proper safety seats in automobiles for infants and children under six years old or sixty pounds. Although statistics indicate that 82% of California children under age eight are using child restraints, more than three quarters of them are used incorrectly. This program is being sponsored by the California Office of Traffic Safety.

FISCAL IMPACT

None

**In the matter of a Proclamation declaring
April 19 through April 25, 2009 as, "Safety
Seat Checkup Week" in Placer County.**

WHEREAS, the number one preventable cause of death and injury of children and young adults is the automobile collision; and

WHEREAS, more than 150 child passengers under sixteen are killed and more than 20,000 injured in automobile collisions in California in each year; and

WHEREAS, up to 71% of the children killed would be alive today if they had been properly restrained in crash-tested safety seats, boosters, or safety belts; and

WHEREAS, infants and young children are not capable of initiating action to use proper restraints and are not protected adequately by automatic belts or air bags; and

WHEREAS, although 82% of California children under age eight are using child restraints, more than three quarters of them are used incorrectly; and

WHEREAS, only 42% of California children who need a booster seat to avoid preventable injuries are using a booster; and

WHEREAS, crash-tested safety seats are moderately priced and widely available for purchase at retail stores and at low cost from car safety seat distribution programs throughout California; and

WHEREAS, the State of California has ruled that, until children are six years of age or sixty pounds, they must be restrained in safety seats or boosters, in the back seat, when riding in motor vehicles and that all other occupants must be properly restrained in safety seats or safety belts; and

WHEREAS, SafetyBeltSafe U.S.A. has been dedicated for 28 years to protecting children from injury or death while being transported in a motor vehicle.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED THAT the Placer County Board of Supervisors declares the week of April 19 through April 25, 2009 as "Safety Seat Checkup Week" in Placer County.

F.C. "Rocky" Rockholm Supervisor, District 1
Chairman 2009

Robert M. Weygandt
Supervisor, District 2

Jim Holmes
Supervisor, District 3

Kirk Uhler
Supervisor, District 4

Jennifer Montgomery
Supervisor, District 5