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Governor Proclaims June as Safety Month in Alaska

JUNEAU, Alaska— Governor Bill Walker has proclaimed June as Safety Month in Alaska in concert with the National Safety Council's <u>National Safety Month</u>. The annual campaign is designed to focus attention on the importance of safety to prevent tragic accidents that hurt Alaska families and businesses.

This year's theme, "What I Live For," encourages Alaskans to think about the most important aspects of our lives, and share stories with fellow Alaskans about why safety is so important to maintain our quality of life. Important topics such as transportation safety, prescription painkiller abuse, emergency preparedness, ergonomics, and slip, trip and fall prevention are significant concerns that demand our attention.

"Keeping employees safe at work is one of the tenets of the Department of Labor," said Commissioner Heidi Drygas. Basic steps, such as regular safety briefings, and ensuring employees have and use protective equipment such as safety vests, hard hats, and protective eyewear can keep Alaskans safe on the job. The longer days of summer also bring increased outdoor recreational activity in our beautiful state. Simple things, such as wearing a life vest while boating, and carrying extra food, warm clothing and matches while hiking, can keep Alaskans safe while enjoying the outdoors. Often times, it's those very basic decisions that save lives.

Commissioner Heidi Drygas summed up this year's theme, "Whether it's a weekend of fishing, job-site safety or just yard work around the house, we should all pause to think about how to keep ourselves and our families safe and healthy today and every day, so that tomorrow is filled with the things we live for."

The Alaska Occupational Safety and Health program offers assistance for employers to improve safety and health performance. For more information, contact AKOSH at 800-656-4972 or 296-4955 in Anchorage. To report suspected violations of workplace safety and health standards, call 800-770-4940.

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2015 June Alaska Safety Month Executive Proclamation Labor Standards and Safety Alaska Occupational Safety and Health Section