



Proclamation

By the Governor of Alabama

WHEREAS, approximately every three hours in the United States, a person or vehicle is hit by a train; and

WHEREAS, combined, highway-rail grade crossing and trespassing incidents account for over 94% of all rail-related deaths in America; and

WHEREAS, as matter of safety, it is necessary for pedestrians, cyclists and the public to never trespass or play around railroad tracks; and

WHEREAS, a motorist is 20 times more likely to die in a crash involving a train than in a collision involving another motor vehicle; and

WHEREAS, nearly 50% of vehicle/train collisions occur at highway-rail grade crossings with active warning devices (gates, lights, and/or bells); and

WHEREAS, in 2020, preliminary data shows within the 84 vehicle crashes involving trains, there were 28 injuries and three fatalities in Alabama; and

WHEREAS, The Federal Railroad Administration ranked Alabama seventh among the top 10 states with the highest number of highway-rail grade crossing collisions in 2020; and

WHEREAS, Operation Lifesaver, state agencies, railroad companies, and state and local law enforcement officials are joining together to heighten awareness about the importance of "rail safety" by urging all motorists to obey signals, gates and other safety devices at highway-rail grade crossings and all pedestrians/cyclists to stay away from the tracks; and

WHEREAS, Rail Safety Awareness Week raises public awareness encouraging motorists to drive safely;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Kay Ivey, Governor of Alabama, do hereby proclaim September 20– 25, 2021, as

Rail Safety Awareness Week

in the state of Alabama.



Given Under My Hand and the Great Seal of the Office of the Governor at the State Capitol in the City of Montgomery on the 8th day of September 2021.

Kay Ivey

Kay Ivey, Governor