

State of North Carolina



MICHAEL F. EASLEY
GOVERNOR

WATCH OUT FOR THE CHILD WEEK

2006

BY THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA

A PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, according to the North Carolina Department of Public Instruction, more than 13,500 school buses travel on the roadways every school day in North Carolina; and

WHEREAS, according to the North Carolina Department of Public Instruction, school bus stop arm violations have increased to over 2,400 per day in 2006; and

WHEREAS, every such violation presents a chance that a child could be injured or killed while boarding or leaving the school bus; and

WHEREAS, the North Carolina Department of Crime Control and Public Safety, through the North Carolina State Highway Patrol, will conduct "Operation Stop Arm," a safety initiative to reduce collisions, injuries and fatalities involving school bus passengers by enforcing all traffic laws around the state's schools and school buses; and

WHEREAS, according to the North Carolina Department of Public Instruction, in the U.S. there were 20 fatalities reported in the loading zone around school buses for the 2004-2005 school year, and one of those was in North Carolina, caused by a motorist failing to stop for the school bus;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, MICHAEL F. EASLEY, Governor of the State of North Carolina, do hereby proclaim October 16-20, 2006, to be "**WATCH OUT FOR THE CHILD WEEK**" in North Carolina and call upon all of our citizens to safeguard our children's lives by driving safely and prudently upon the observation of a school bus.



A handwritten signature in dark ink that reads "Mike Easley".

MICHAEL F. EASLEY