



State of New York

Executive Chamber

Proclamation

Whereas, building safety affects the daily lives of New Yorkers and all Americans, and we look for security, comfort and sound construction in the offices, schools, shopping malls, public institutions, and other buildings we use regularly; and

Whereas, the structural integrity of buildings, along with proper design and fire prevention measures are integral to public safety, and building codes also establish standards that decrease vulnerability to natural forces such as high winds, hurricanes, earthquakes, fires, and snowstorms, and limit the impact of catastrophes such as fires and acts of terrorism; and

Whereas, through the ongoing efforts of building safety and fire prevention officials, architects, engineers, contractors and others in the construction industry to address critical issues in the built environment, we are confident that our structures are safe and sound, and offer the greatest security in everyday life and in times of natural disaster; and

Whereas, New York State has updated the Uniform Fire Prevention and Building Code (the Uniform Code) by incorporating the provisions of the International Codes – a comprehensive and coordinated set of codes designed to ensure the safety of buildings and people, and with nearly 1,200 standards covering an array of building and construction issues, New York's updated Code provides a consistently high level of public safety throughout the State; and

Whereas, the State Fire Prevention and Building Code Council is a 17-member board that includes industry and design professionals, fire officials, code officials, and State and local public officials, and this collective body maintains and periodically updates the Code, and also assesses the effectiveness of standards for health, safety and security; and

Whereas, Building Safety Month is a nationwide observance that increases public awareness of fire prevention and building safety, and encourages the use and enforcement of related codes by local code enforcement officials and fire officials, and as it was first observed in 1980 as Building Safety Week, this year's theme honors the 30th anniversary: *"Building Safety: Commemorating a 30-year Legacy of Leadership"* and highlights four areas during the month: Energy and Green Building; Disaster Safety and Mitigation; Fire Safety and Awareness; and Backyard Safety; and

Whereas, New York State recognizes that the structural integrity and fire safety of buildings is critical, and joins in support of this important issue, and furthermore reminds our citizens to be conscious of all aspects of building safety and the valuable work of those professionals who help maintain high standards of building design, construction and maintenance;

Now, Therefore, I, David A. Paterson, Governor of the State of New York, do hereby proclaim May 2010 as

BUILDING SAFETY MONTH

in the Empire State.



G i v e n under my hand and the Privy Seal of the State
at the Capitol in the City of Albany this twenty-sixth
day of April in the year two thousand ten.

David A. Paterson

Governor

James Schwab
Secretary to the Governor