

PROCLAMATION OF THE MENDOCINO COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

RECOGNIZING SEPTEMBER 17-23, 2023 AS CHILD PASSENGER SAFETY WEEK IN MENDOCINO COUNTY

WHEREAS, parents and caregivers are responsible for so many things for their children, and one of the top responsibilities is to keep their kids safe; and

WHEREAS, the U.S. Department of Transportation's National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) wants to be sure parents are doing everything possible to protect our nation's youngest passengers; and

WHEREAS, car seats, booster seats, and seat belts have been proven effective in reducing crash fatalities among children, and buckling children correctly in the right seat for their age and size can mean the difference between life and death; and

WHEREAS, every day in 2021, an average of two children under 13 were killed, and an estimated 318 were injured. More than a third (36%) of the children who died while riding in passenger vehicles were unrestrained. Car seats have been shown to reduce fatal injury by 71% for infants (under 1 year old) and by 54% for toddlers (1 to 4 years old) in passenger cars; and

WHEREAS, NHTSA aims to address common issues seen with child passengers: children riding unrestrained, in the wrong restraint types, or in car seats that are installed incorrectly; and

WHEREAS, Mendocino County wants to come alongside parents and caregivers to educate them about the importance of child passenger safety and their vital role in it; and

WHEREAS, this September, we are once again partnering with NHTSA for Child Passenger Safety Week; and

WHEREAS, during Child Passenger Safety Week, all parents and caregivers should take advantage of the free, online materials to ensure children are in the right car seats, and that the seats are installed correctly. To find a list of car seat resources, visit www.nhtsa.gov/TheRightSeat; and

WHEREAS, one-on-one appointments are available through the Department of Public Health, free of charge for residents with children ages 0 through 12, living in Mendocino County. <https://www.mendocinocounty.org/departments/public-health/nursing/public-health>.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Supervisors of the County of Mendocino, hereby proclaims September 17-23, 2023, as "Child Passenger Safety Week" in Mendocino County.

Dated: September 12, 2023

Glenn McGourty, Chair