**Child Passenger Safety Week**

**SAMPLE PROCLAMATION**

**[City/State]**

A PROCLAMATION
OF 2024 CHILD PASSENGER SAFETY WEEK/NATIONAL SEAT CHECK SATURDAY

Every day in America, millions of parents and caregivers travel to work, school, and other activities with their children. While many of those children are riding in correctly installed car seats for their ages and sizes, nearly half are not. There’s a reason all 50 states, the District of Columbia, and all U.S. territories require the use of car seats for children traveling in motor vehicles: car seats, booster seats, and seat belts reduce crash fatalities among children. 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. Ensuring that children are correctly buckled in the right seat for their ages and sizes can mean the difference between life and death.

Taking time to check children’s car seats is a critical step toward safety. Every day in 2022, an average of three children 14 and under were killed, and an estimated 429 were injured in traffic crashes. Of the children who died while riding in passenger vehicles (cars, SUVs, pickups, and vans), more than a third were unbuckled. Give your child passengers the best protection: double-check to make sure they’re correctly buckled and in the right seat.

To emphasize the importance of child passenger safety to parents and caregivers, **[City/State]** is participating in Child Passenger Safety Week. Just like drivers check their vehicle’s oil and tires, everyone who drives children needs to check their car seats to make sure they’re appropriate for your child’s age and size. Sometimes as parents, we don’t know what we don’t know. Even for experienced parents who think their children are all set, Child Passenger Safety Week is a great time to double-check.

Now, therefore, I, **[insert official's name and title]**, do hereby proclaim September 15-21, 2024, as “Child Passenger Safety Week,” and September 21 as “National Seat Check Saturday” in **[insert jurisdiction]**. Certified Child Passenger Safety Technicians will be holding public events in communities nationwide where parents can get their car seats checked for free. Let’s work together to keep our children safe.