



State of New York

Executive Chamber

Proclamation

Whereas, New York State places a high priority on safety in the workplace and in the job environments of all people, including the many dedicated and industrious farm and agricultural workers employed in various areas of food and animal production; and

Whereas, grain production, handling, and transportation is a significant industry in New York State; and

Whereas, the industry may also present certain dangers and risks, and it takes only seconds to be completely engulfed in flowing grain or overcome by oxygen-deficient atmospheres; and

Whereas, in 2014 there were 38 documented entrapments nationally, resulting in 17 deaths; in 2015, there were 24 documented grain entrapments that resulted in 14 deaths nationally (58% fatality rate); and

Whereas, in New York State, there were a reported 40 cases of farm "confined space" incidents during the ten year period of 2005-2015, the majority of which were grain entrapments; and

Whereas, Grain Bin Safety Week is an annual observance that is held the third full week of February to promote grain bin safety on farms and commercial grain-handling facilities, and is a collaborative effort by industry leaders and agricultural professionals working together; and

Whereas, through education and awareness of hazards that exist within the farm and agricultural work environments, and highlighting the importance of practices and procedures to ensure the highest levels of safety, the number of preventable injuries and deaths associated with grain handling and storage can be reduced; New York State joins to support this weeklong initiative which focuses on a critical aspect of work safety within the farming and agricultural communities;

Now, Therefore, I, Andrew M. Cuomo, Governor of the State of New York, do hereby proclaim February 18-24, 2018 as

GRAIN BIN SAFETY WEEK

in the Empire State.



Given under my hand and the Privy Seal of the State at the Capitol in the City of Albany on this sixteenth day of February in the year two thousand eighteen.

Governor