HOUSE BILL NO. 747

INTRODUCED BY F. WILMER

A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT DESIGNATING APRIL 28 THROUGH MAY 6, 2007, AS MONTANA SAFE KIDS WEEK; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE."

WHEREAS, unintentional injury is the number one killer of children ages 14 and under; and

WHEREAS, each year, more than 5,000 children ages 14 and under die from unintentional injuries; and

WHEREAS, emergency rooms experience nearly 2.4 million visits from children ages 14 and under each summer; and

WHEREAS, 90% of these injuries are preventable; and

WHEREAS, 41% of these deaths occur during "trauma season", the months of May, June, July, and August; and

WHEREAS, the risk activities that show the greatest seasonal surge in deaths and injuries between May and August compared to the rest of the year are biking, drowning, pedestrian-related injuries, motor vehicle-related injuries, and falls; and

WHEREAS, Safe Kids Worldwide and Safe Kids USA promote childhood injury prevention by uniting diverse groups into local and state coalitions, developing innovative educational tools and strategies, initiating public policy changes, promoting new technology, and raising awareness through the media; and

WHEREAS, Safe Kids Worldwide, with the support of founding sponsor Johnson & Johnson, launches Safe Kids Week 2007, "Make it a Safe Summer", which focuses on five of the deadliest warm weather risk activities; and

WHEREAS, Safe Kids USA has planned special childhood injury prevention activities and community-based events for Safe Kids Week 2007 in an effort to educate families about summer safety.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MONTANA:

NEW SECTION. **Section 1. Recognition of safe kids week.** The governor shall call upon all the residents of the state of Montana to join the governor in supporting the efforts and activities of safe kids to prevent childhood injury and proclaim April 28 through May 6, 2007, as safe kids week in Montana.

<u>NEW SECTION.</u> **Section 2. Effective date.** [This act] is effective on passage and approval.

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