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GOVERNOR PROCLAIMS HIGHWAY WEEK IN WASHINGTON

Governor Albert D. Rosellini today proclaimed May 26 - June 1 as Highway Week in Washington. The Governor's proclamation followed action by President Kennedy and both Houses of Congress recently designating the same period as National Highway Week, calling attention to the highway program throughout the nation.

In directing attention to the importance of the highway system to the nation's and the state's defense and economy, Governor Rosellini said that Highway Week offers an opportunity for each citizen to gain knowledge of the state's highway programs and policies.

"It is to the interest of every resident of this state to keep himself informed of road building programs," Rosellini said. "We, in Washington, should be more cognizant of the importance of our highways than citizens in regions elsewhere. Situated as we are, on the West Coast's more important artery, Route 99, we have become particularly aware that today's highways provide our economy life-giving circulation of people and goods. It is our extensive system of highways and roads that has brought us, here in the Pacific Northwest, from the status of a frontier outpost of a few years ago to that of a major economic and commercial center.

"Good highways, and good roads," he continued, "don't 'just happen.' Unlike Topsy, they don't 'just grow.' If the people of this state are to continue to be served by an adequate, efficient, and safe system of highways and roads, it will require that we maintain a constant and an informed awareness of our needs and the relationship of our needs to those of our neighboring states. We must continually be alert to the programs that are in progress and being planned to meet those needs and we must maintain a surveillance of the cost of these programs and plans."

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The Governor said that National Highway Week is an excellent opportunity for Washingtonians to take stock, "to pause for a bit and consider where we are and where we want to go."

Governor Rosellini suggested that each motorist in Washington take time out and look at the great work under way, or at least slow down a little while he drives by construction sites and watch the state's gigantic building program in motion.

"Certainly," he emphasized, "this is one of the most important aspects of State government, one that touches the lives of every resident and visitor in Washington. It behooves each of us to fully acquaint ourselves with such a program."