

State of Rhode Island GUBERNATORIAL PROCLAMATION

Safe Digging Month

WHEREAS, damage to underground facilities, such as pipes, mains, cables or conduits, can result in dangerous or costly leaks, fires, explosions and injuries, environmental mishaps, and the disruption of vital utility services, even though this damage and its consequences are often preventable; and

WHEREAS, all individuals, entities, corporations, and government bodies planning to excavate, blast or demolish need to first determine the location of underground utilities; and

WHEREAS, Dig Safe System, Inc., a not-for-profit corporation, is a free service for property owners and excavators, established to promote public safety and to protect underground facilities. This "One-Call" system accepts notices of digging from excavators and transmits these notices to the designated utilities, which respond by locating and marking out their facilities prior to the work; and

WHEREAS, notifying Dig Safe toll free by phone at 811 or online at digsafe.com prior to excavation work helps excavators to comply with safety rules and regulations in an effort to prevent unnecessary accidents from occurring.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Daniel J. McKee, Governor of the State of Rhode Island, do hereby proclaim April 2024 as: *Safe Digging Month* and urge all citizens to join me in recognizing the importance of this month and participate fittingly in its observance.

Given under my hand and the seal of the Office of the Governor of the State of Rhode Island, this 1st day of April, 2024.

Daniel J. McKee Governor

COVERNOR

Gregg M. Amore Secretary of State