



## LOUISIANA HIGHWAY SAFETY COMMISSION NEWS RELEASE

June 6, 2025

### Governor Landry proclaims June 6 Secure Your Load for Road Safety Day

**Baton Rouge** – Governor Jeff Landry has proclaimed June 6, 2025 “Secure Your Load for Road Safety Day” in Louisiana.

Today is for remembering those whose lives have been impacted by unsecured loads and road debris, and to make load securement a standard practice.

In the proclamation, Gov. Landry states, “All Louisiana drivers must recognize their responsibility to make safe and considerate choices while driving, and driving with an unsecured load presents danger to the traveling public.”

Lisa Freeman, the Governor’s Highway Safety Representative and executive director of the [Louisiana Highway Safety Commission](#) stated, “Everyone could use a reminder that a 20-pound object that falls off the back of a vehicle will strike with a half-ton impact, strong enough to kill someone on the road.”

LHSC would like to remind citizens that Louisiana Revised Statute 32:383 states: “The load on a vehicle shall not drop, sift, leak, or otherwise escape therefrom . . . The load on any vehicle shall be securely fastened so as to prevent the covering or load from becoming loose, detached, or in any manner a hazard to other users of the highway.”

The penalty in Louisiana for having an unsecured load is stated as, “A fine of not more than five hundred dollars or by imprisonment for not more than six months, or both.”

“Secure Your Load” is a national traffic safety campaign that began in 2010 when traffic safety advocates Robin Abel and Paul Reif joined forces. Reif’s son Matthew was killed by an unsecured load on June 6. Abel nearly lost her own daughter in 2004 in a crash with an unsecured load.

Abel’s message is simple and clear: “Secure your load as if everyone you love is driving in the car behind you.”

[According to NHTSA](#), each year about 730 people are killed and 17,000 more are injured because of objects in the road. Most of these crashes (81%) involve unsecured loads on passenger vehicles. Additionally, 16% of litter in Louisiana comes from trucks with unsecured loads.

Follow these tips to ensure you properly secure your cargo:

- Tie it down with rope, netting, or straps.
- Tie large objects directly to your vehicle or trailer.
- Consider covering the entire load with a sturdy tarp or netting.
- Don't overload your vehicle or trailer.
- Always double-check your load to make sure it is secure.

Before transporting a load, ask yourself these questions:

- Is there any chance of debris or cargo falling or blowing out of my vehicle?
- Is my load secured at the back, sides, and top?
- What would happen to my load if I had to brake suddenly, if I hit a bump, or if another vehicle hit me?
- Would I want my loaded vehicle driving through my own neighborhood?
- Would I feel safe if I were driving behind my vehicle?

For more information on Secure Your Load Day, please visit <https://www.secureyourload.com/>.

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Jeff Landry  
GOVERNOR

## Proclamation

WHEREAS, road safety is a priority for the Louisiana Highway Safety Commission and other public safety advocates in the State of Louisiana; and

WHEREAS, all Louisiana drivers must recognize their responsibility to make safe and considerate choices while driving, and driving with an unsecured load presents danger to the traveling public; and

WHEREAS, nationally, 730 people are killed and 17,000 more are injured each year because of objects in the road, and 81 percent of these crashes involve unsecured loads, according to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration; and

WHEREAS, a 20-pound object that falls off a vehicle traveling at typical speeds will strike with a half-ton impact; and

WHEREAS, Louisiana Revised Statute 32.383 states that "The load on a vehicle shall not drop, sift, leak, or otherwise escape there from"; and

WHEREAS, 16 percent of litter in Louisiana comes from trucks with improperly covered loads; and

WHEREAS, the simple, routine act of securely affixing every load being transported makes Louisiana's roads safer for all drivers, and these precautions should not be overlooked; and

WHEREAS, the State of Louisiana recognizes the profound suffering and loss of those harmed by unsecured loads, and stands with those critically impacted by such instances of avoidable tragedy.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Jeff Landry, Governor of Louisiana, do hereby proclaim June 6, 2025 to be

### Secure Your Load for Road Safety Day

in the State of Louisiana.



In Witness Whereof I have hereunto set my hand  
officially and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the  
State of Louisiana at the Capitol in the city of Baton  
Rouge on this 1st day of June A.D. 2025.

  
Governor of Louisiana