



CERTIFICATE of RECOGNITION

By virtue of the authority vested by the Constitution in the Governor of the Commonwealth of Virginia there is hereby officially recognized:

CAMPUS FIRE SAFETY MONTH

WHEREAS, students across our Commonwealth and nation will be going off to college in the fall and moving into dormitories and residence halls, fraternity and sorority houses, and off-campus housing; and

WHEREAS, many of these student resident properties are not adequately protected with automatic fire sprinkler systems and automatic fire alarm systems; and

WHEREAS, from 2000-2009 there were 365 structure fires with colleges in Virginia causing six civilian injuries and two fire service injuries and a loss of \$9 million in property and contents damage; and

WHEREAS, it is recognized that automatic fire alarm systems provide the necessary early warning to occupants and the fire department of a fire so that appropriate action can be taken; and

WHEREAS, automatic fire sprinkler systems are a highly effective method of controlling or extinguishing a fire in its early stages, protecting the lives of the building's occupants; and

WHEREAS, many injuries and fatal fires have occurred in occupancies where the fire safety systems have been compromised or disabled by the residents; and

WHEREAS, many fires can be avoided by practicing simple fire safety procedures such as testing smoke alarms weekly, replacing batteries semi-annually in 9-volt units, and replacing the entire smoke alarm unit, including lithium battery units according to manufacturer's instructions; and

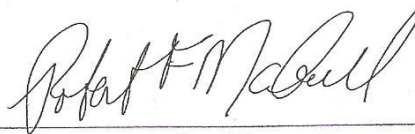
WHEREAS, it is recognized that fire safety education is an effective method of reducing the occurrence of fires and reducing the resulting loss of life and property damage; and

WHEREAS, many students are not routinely receiving effective fire safety education throughout their entire college career and therefore it is vital to educate our college students about the importance of fire safety behavior so that these behaviors can help to ensure their safety during their college years and beyond; and

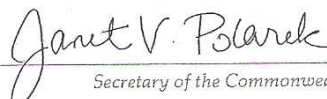
WHEREAS, by developing a future generation of fire safe adults, future loss of life from fires can be significantly reduced;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Robert F. McDonnell, do hereby recognize September 1-30, 2010 as **CAMPUS FIRE SAFETY MONTH** in the COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA, and I call this observance to the attention of our citizens.





Governor



Secretary of the Commonwealth