

STATE OF MISSISSIPPI

Office of the Governor



PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, student-related housing fires at schools across the country have tragically cut short the lives of some of the youth of our nation; and

WHEREAS, since January 2000, at least 175 people, including students, parents and children, have died in the United States in campus-related fires; and

WHEREAS, approximately 87 percent of these deaths have occurred in off-campus occupancies; and

WHEREAS, a number of fatal fires have occurred in buildings where the fire safety systems have been compromised or disabled by the occupants; and

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

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

WHEREAS, many students are living in off-campus occupancies, Greek housing and residence halls that may not be adequately protected with automatic fire sprinkler systems and automatic fire alarms systems or adequate smoke alarms; 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, students are not routinely receiving effective fire safety education throughout their entire college career; and

WHEREAS, it is vital to educate the future generation of our nation 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 generation of fire-safe adults, future loss of life from fires can be significantly reduced:

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Phil Bryant, Governor of the State of Mississippi, do hereby proclaim September 2019 as

CAMPUS FIRE SAFETY MONTH

in the State of Mississippi and encourage schools to evaluate the level of fire safety being provided in both on- and off-campus student housing and take the necessary steps to ensure fire-safe living environments.



IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Mississippi to be affixed.

DONE in the City of Jackson, on the 2nd day of August in the year of our Lord, two thousand and nineteen and of the Independence of the United States of America, the two hundred and forty-fourth.

Phil Bryant

PHIL BRYANT
GOVERNOR