



State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations
GUBERNATORIAL PROCLAMATION
Campus Fire Safety Month

WHEREAS, student-related housing fires in Texas; Oregon; Illinois; Washington, D.C.; Pennsylvania and other 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 parents, and children have died in college-related fires; and

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

WHEREAS, a majority of the students across the nation live 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 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 students are living in off-campus occupancies, Greek housing, and residence halls that are not adequately protected with automatic fire sprinkler systems and automatic fire alarm systems or adequate some 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 the 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, Gina M. Raimondo, Governor of the State of Rhode Island, do hereby proclaim September 2019 as: ***Campus Fire Safety Month*** in the state and encourage all citizens to join me in recognizing the importance of this month.



Given under my hand and the great seal
of the State of Rhode Island
and Providence Plantations,
this 7 day of August, 2019

Gina M. Raimondo
Governor

Nellie M. Gorbea
Secretary of State