



**STATE OF TEXAS  
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR**

Across our state, most students attending college live in off campus housing and must take on the responsibilities of household safety. Since January 2000, at least 175 people have died in college campus-related fires. Most of these deaths occurred in off-campus housing, and many of those who perished lived in housing where smoke detectors and fire safety systems had been compromised or disabled by residents. It is clear that young people are unaware of the perils of inadequate fire safety in the home.

Early warning is crucial to survival when fires occur. Automatic fire alarm systems and smoke alarms provide life saving early warnings to occupants and fire departments so that necessary action can be taken. In order to ensure the well-being of our future leaders, we must promote better fire safety knowledge.

Each year, Campus Fire Safety Month is proclaimed to encourage individuals, schools, and municipalities to evaluate the level of fire safety provided in housing both on and off campus to ensure safe living environments. With a well-rounded fire safety education, our students can avoid the tragic outcomes of serious fires.

In recent years, we have seen a significant decrease in the number of fire deaths nationwide because local governments, schools, and communities have focused on educating students and parents about fire safety and how to prevent and survive a fire. While we have accomplished much, there is always more work to be done.

At this time, I encourage all Texas students to learn about important fire safety behaviors so that future loss of life from fires can be significantly reduced.

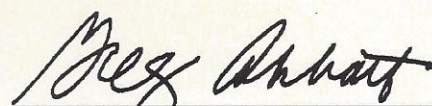
Therefore, I, Greg Abbott, Governor of Texas, do hereby proclaim September 2019 to be

## **Campus Fire Safety Month**



in Texas, and urge the appropriate recognition whereof.

In official recognition whereof,  
I hereby affix my signature this the  
20<sup>th</sup> day of August, 2019.

  
Governor of Texas