

The State of Washington



Proclamation

WHEREAS, since January 2000, at least 171 people, including students, parents, and children, have died in campus-related fires, with approximately 87 percent of these deaths occurring 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 as well as being 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 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, Jay Inslee, Governor of the state of Washington, do hereby proclaim September 2019 to be

Campus Fire Safety Month

in Washington, and I urge all people in our state to join me in this special observance.

Signed this 16th day of August, 2019

Governor Jay Inslee

