

# Proclamation

## by Governor Jim Justice

- Whereas,** to express the support of the establishment of September as Campus Fire Safety Month, and for other purposes; and
- Whereas,** student-related housing fires in Illinois, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Texas, and Washington, D.C., 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 students, parents, and children have died in college-related fires; and
- Whereas,** approximately 87 percent of these 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 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 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; 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,** Be it Resolved that I, Jim Justice, Governor of the Great State of West Virginia, do hereby proclaim **September 2019** as:

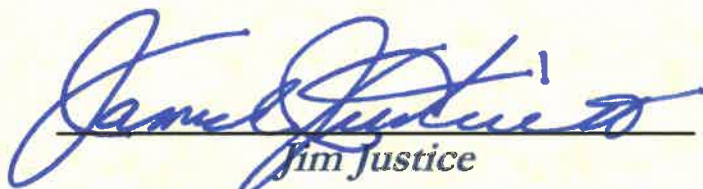
## *Campus Fire Safety Month*

in the Mountain State and encourage all citizens to join me in this observance.


**In Witness Whereof,** I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of West Virginia to be affixed.

**Done** at the Capitol, City of Charleston, State of West Virginia, this the Sixteenth day of July, in the year of our Lord, Two Thousand Nineteen, and in the One Hundred Fifty-Seventh year of the State.



  
Jim Justice  
Governor

*By the Governor:*

  
Mac Warner  
Secretary of State