Proclamation

Steben L. Beshear Gobernor

of the

Commonwealth of Kentucky



To All To Whom These Presents Shall Come:

WHEREAS. Student-related housing fires across the country have tragically cut short the lives of some of the youth of our Nation; and

WHEREAS, During a five-year period from 2007-2011, U.S. fire departments responded to an estimated annual average of 3,810 structure fires in dormitories, fraternities, sororities and barracks, causing an annual average of two civilian deaths, 30 fire injuries and \$9.4 million in property damage; and

WHEREAS, The number of reported fires in the dormitory occupancy group increased 18 percent from 3,200 in 1980 to 3,780 in 2011; and

WHEREAS, A majority of the students across the Nation live in off-campus occupancies or Greek housing which are not adequately protected with automatic fire sprinkler systems or adequate smoke alarms or in buildings where the fire safety systems have been compromised or disabled by the occupants; and

WHEREAS, Automatic fire and smoke alarm systems provide the necessary early warnings to occupants, and the fire department and automatic fire sprinkler systems are highly effective in controlling or extinguishing a fire in its early stages, thereby protecting the lives of the building's occupants; and

WHEREAS, It is vital to educate the future generation of our Nation about the importance of fire safety behavior in order to reduce the occurrence of fires and the resulting loss of life and property damage and to develop a generation of fire-safe adults, significantly reducing future loss of life from fires; and

WHEREAS, It is encouraged that both school systems and local governments evaluate and improve their fire safety education programs;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, STEVEN L. BESHEAR, Governor of the Commonwealth of Kentucky, do hereby proclaim September 2015 as

CAMPUS FIRE SAFETY MONTH

in Kentucky.

DONE AT THE CAPITOL, in the City of Frankfort the 13th day of August, in the year of Our Lord Two Thousand Fifteen and in the 224th year of the Commonwealth.

STEVEN L. BESHEAR

GOVERNOR

ALISON LUNDERGAN GRIMES

SECRETARY OF STATE