



STATE OF TENNESSEE

# PROCLAMATION

BY THE GOVERNOR

**WHEREAS**, since January 2000, at least 170 people, including students, parents, and children have died in campus-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 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**, 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, Bill Haslam, Governor of the State of Tennessee, do hereby proclaim the month of September, 2017 as

## *Campus Fire Safety Month*

in Tennessee and encourage all citizens to join me in this worthy observance.



**IN WITNESS WHEREOF**, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the official seal of the State of Tennessee to be affixed at Nashville on this twenty-seventh day of January, 2017.

Governor

Secretary of State