

# State of North Carolina

**ROY COOPER**  
GOVERNOR

CAMPUS FIRE SAFETY MONTH

2017

BY THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA

## A PROCLAMATION

**WHEREAS**, student-related housing fires in North Carolina, Illinois, Indiana, Maryland, Pennsylvania, South Dakota, Washington D.C., and elsewhere have tragically cut short the lives of too many young people in our nation; and

**WHEREAS**, since January 2000, at least 171 people—including students, parents, and children—have died in college-related fires; approximately 87 percent of these deaths occurred in off-campus occupancies; and

**WHEREAS**, a majority of students in the United States live off campus; many off-campus occupancies, Greek housing, and residence halls are not protected by automatic fire sprinkler systems, automatic fire alarm systems, or adequate smoke alarms; and

**WHEREAS**, automatic fire alarm systems and smoke alarms provide the necessary early warning that occupants and fire departments need to take appropriate action; 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**, a number of fatal fires have occurred in buildings where the fire safety systems have been compromised or disabled by the occupants; and

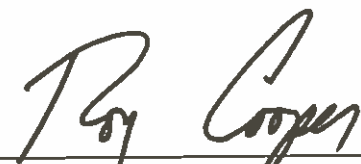
**WHEREAS**, fire safety education is an effective method of preventing fires and reducing the loss of life and property damage caused by fires when they do occur; and

**WHEREAS**, students do not receive routine effective fire safety education throughout their entire college careers; it is vital to educate our future generations about the importance of fire safety so that they can take measures to ensure their own safety during college years and beyond; and

**WHEREAS**, the State of North Carolina encourages all schools and municipalities to provide educational programs for students during September and throughout the school year, to evaluate the level of fire safety being provided in both on and off-campus student housing, and to take the necessary steps to ensure well-equipped, fire-safe living environments;

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, ROY COOPER, Governor of the State of North Carolina, do hereby proclaim September, 2017, as "CAMPUS FIRE SAFETY MONTH" in North Carolina, and commend its observance to all citizens.



  
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Roy Cooper  
Governor

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the Great Seal of the State of North Carolina at the Capitol in Raleigh this fourteenth day of August in the year of our Lord two thousand and seventeen and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and forty-first.