

State of Vermont
Executive Department
A Proclamation

- WHEREAS,** Vermont is committed to ensuring the safety and security of all those living in and visiting the state; and
- WHEREAS,** fire departments across the United States responded to 365,500 home fires in 2015; and
- WHEREAS,** home fires in the United States claimed an average of 3,062 civilians annually between 2011 and 2015, representing the majority (78 percent) of all fire deaths in the United States; and
- WHEREAS,** many of today's products and furnishings produce toxic gases and smoke when burned, making it impossible to see and breathe within moments; and
- WHEREAS,** these toxic conditions can leave as little as one or two minutes for occupants to escape a home from the time the smoke alarm sounds, making the installation of smoke alarms critical for early warning; and
- WHEREAS,** a home fire escape plan provides the skill set and know-how to quickly and safely escape a home fire situation; and
- WHEREAS,** a proper home fire escape plan includes two exits from every room in the home, a path to the outside from each exit, smoke alarms in all required locations, and a meeting place outside where everyone in the home will convene upon exiting; and
- WHEREAS,** Vermont's first responders are dedicated to reducing the occurrence of home fires and home fire injuries through prevention, protection and public education; and
- WHEREAS,** the Vermont Division of Fire Safety and local fire departments are working in coordination with the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA), the official sponsor of Fire Prevention Week for more than 90 years, to educate the public about these life-saving messages; and
- WHEREAS,** Vermonters are responsive to public education measures and are able to take personal steps to increase their safety from fire, especially in their homes; and

WHEREAS,

National Fire Prevention Week is October 8 through October 14, 2017 and its theme, "Every Second Counts: Plan 2 Ways Out!" effectively serves to educate the public about the vital importance of developing a home fire escape plan with all members of the household and practicing it twice a year.

NOW, THEREFORE,

I, Philip B. Scott, Governor, do hereby proclaim October 8-14, 2017

FIRE PREVENTION WEEK

in Vermont.



Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of Vermont on this 19th day of September, A.D. 2017.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Philip B. Scott", is written over a horizontal line.

Philip B. Scott
Governor

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Brittney L. Wilson", is written over a horizontal line.
Brittney L. Wilson
Secretary of Civil and Military Affairs