

State of Vermont
Executive Department
A Proclamation

- WHEREAS,** fire is a serious public safety concern both locally and nationally, and homes are the locations where people are at greatest risk from fire; and
- WHEREAS,** three in every five home-fire deaths result from fires in homes with no smoke alarms (38 percent) or no working smoke alarms (21 percent); and
- WHEREAS,** home fires result in approximately 3,000 related fatalities and approximately 15,000 injuries annually; and
- WHEREAS,** on average, United States fire departments respond to a fire every 24 seconds, a structure fire every 66 seconds, a home fire every 90 seconds, an outside or unclassified fire every 48 seconds and a highway vehicle fire every 182 seconds; and
- WHEREAS,** in 2017, Vermont first responders responded to more than 41,000 individual emergency incidents, an average of over 3,400 calls per month; 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,** residential sprinkler systems decrease the fire death rate per 1,000 reported home fires by about 81 percent; and
- WHEREAS,** working photoelectric smoke alarms provide a necessary early warning, reducing the risk of dying in a reported home fire by 50 percent; and
- WHEREAS,** Vermont residents should identify places in their home where fires can start and eliminate those hazards; and
- WHEREAS,** Vermont residents who have planned and practiced a home fire escape plan are more prepared and will therefore be more likely to survive a fire; 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 residents are responsive to public education measures and can take personal steps to increase their safety from fire, especially in their homes; 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,

National Fire Prevention Week is October 7 through October 13, 2018, and its theme, "Look. Listen. Learn. Be-aware Fire Can Happen Anywhere" effectively serves to educate the public about the vital importance of looking in your home where fires can start, listen for the sound of the smoke alarm – know what to do when you hear it, develop a home fire escape plan with family members and practice it twice a year.

NOW, THEREFORE,

I, Philip B. Scott, Governor, do hereby proclaim October 7 - 13, 2018 as

FIRE PREVENTION WEEK

in Vermont.



Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of Vermont on this 5th day of October, A.D. 2018

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

Philip B. Scott
Governor

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jaye Pershing Johnson", written over a horizontal line.

Jaye Pershing Johnson
Secretary of Civil and Military Affairs