

State of South Carolina

Governor's Proclamation

- WHEREAS,** while fire is a serious public safety concern both locally and nationally, the South Carolina Department of Labor, Licensing and Regulation, Division of Fire and Life Safety and the state's fire service are committed to ensuring the safety of all people living in and visiting our state; and
- WHEREAS,** in 2015, fires claimed the lives of 78 people in South Carolina, over 80 percent of whom died in homes, the locations where people are at the greatest risk from fire; and
- WHEREAS,** while working smoke alarms reduce the risk of dying in reported home fires by half, 3 out of 5 home fire deaths result from properties that lack working smoke alarms and, in 20 percent of all homes with smoke alarms, none were working; and
- WHEREAS,** many Americans do not know how old the smoke alarms in their homes are or that they should be replaced at least once every 10 years; and
- WHEREAS,** the age of a smoke alarm can be determined by the date of its manufacture, which is marked on the back of the alarm; and
- WHEREAS,** South Carolina's first responders are dedicated to reducing the occurrence of home fires and home fire injuries through prevention and protection education; and
- WHEREAS,** with the theme, "Don't Wait - Check the Date! Replace Smoke Alarms Every 10 Years", the 2016 observance of Fire Prevention Week helps raise awareness of the vital importance of replacing smoke alarms in homes at least every 10 years.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Nikki R. Haley, Governor of the great State of South Carolina, do hereby proclaim October 9 - 15, 2016, as

FIRE PREVENTION WEEK

throughout the state and encourage all South Carolinians to check the date on their smoke alarms and replace them if they are more than 10 years old, install smoke alarms if there are none, test alarms monthly, and support the many public safety activities and efforts of our fire and emergency services.



NIKKI R. HALEY
GOVERNOR
STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA