

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 2013, fires claimed the lives of 73 people in South Carolina, 85 percent of whom died in homes, the locations where people are at the greatest risk from fire; and
- WHEREAS,** working smoke alarms reduce the risk of dying in reported home fires by half, and residents who have planned and practiced a home fire escape plan are better prepared and more likely to survive a fire; and
- WHEREAS,** three out of five home fire deaths result from properties that lack working smoke alarms; and
- WHEREAS,** the failure of a smoke alarm to operate is usually caused by missing, disconnected, or dead batteries and, in 20 percent of all homes with smoke alarms, none were working; 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 "Working Smoke Alarms Save Lives: Test Yours Every Month!", the 2014 observance of Fire Prevention Week serves as a reminder that working smoke alarms allow for needed time to escape a fire safely.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Nikki R. Haley, Governor of the Great State of South Carolina, do hereby proclaim October 5 - 11, 2014, as

FIRE PREVENTION WEEK

throughout the state and encourage all South Carolinians to test their smoke alarms monthly and to support the many public safety activities and efforts of our fire and emergency services.



A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Nikki R. Haley".

NIKKI R. HALEY
GOVERNOR
STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA