

By His Excellency Dannel P. Malloy, Governor: an  
**Official Statement**

*W*HEREAS, since January 2000, at least 185 people, including students, parents and children have died in student housing fires; and

*W*HEREAS, recent student housing fires in Minnesota, Wisconsin, Kansas, Maryland, California, Indiana, New York and Michigan and other states across the country have tragically ended the lives far too many young people; and

*W*HEREAS, over 85 percent of these deaths have occurred in off-campus occupancies, in which a majority of the students across the nation live; and

*W*HEREAS, a number of fatal fires have occurred in buildings where fire safety systems have been compromised or disabled by the occupants; and

*W*HEREAS, it is recognized that automatic fire alarm systems provide the necessary early warnings of a fire to occupants and the fire department so appropriate action can be taken; and

*W*HEREAS, it is recognized that automatic fire sprinkler systems provide a highly effective method of controlling or extinguishing a fire in its early stages, protecting the lives of the building's occupants; and

*W*HEREAS, many students are living in housing that is not adequately protected with automatic fire sprinkler systems and automatic fire alarm systems; and

*W*HEREAS, it is recognized that fire safety education is an effective method of reducing the occurrence of fires and reducing the resulting loss of life and property damage; and

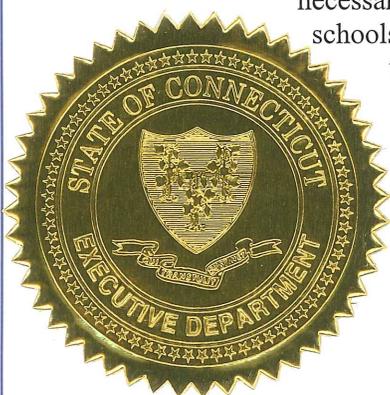
*W*HEREAS, students are not routinely receiving effective fire safety training throughout their college career and it is vital to educate the future generations about the importance of fire safety so these behaviors can help to ensure their safety during college years and beyond; and

*W*HEREAS, by developing a generation of fire-safe adults, future loss of life from fires can be significantly reduced; now

*T*HEREFORE, I, Dannel P. Malloy, Governor of the State of Connecticut, do hereby officially proclaim the month of September 2013, as

**CAMPUS FIRE SAFETY MONTH**

in the State of Connecticut. I urge all college and university officials and municipalities to evaluate the level of fire safety provided in both on and off-campus student housing, to take the necessary steps to ensure a fire-safe living environment, and I encourage schools and municipalities to provide fire safety educational programs to students in September and throughout the school year.



  
GOVERNOR