

# Commonwealth of Massachusetts



## A Proclamation

His Excellency Governor Deval L. Patrick

**Whereas** Recent student housing fires in Minnesota, Maryland, California, Indiana, New York, Virginia, and Michigan have tragically cut short the lives of some of the youth of our nation; and

**Whereas** Since January 2000, over 149 people, including students, parents, and children have died in student housing fires; and

**Whereas** A majority of students across the nation live in off-campus occupancies, and over three-fourths of fire deaths occurred in off-campus housing; and

**Whereas** A number of fatal fires have occurred in buildings where the fire safety systems have been compromised or disabled by the occupants; and

**Whereas** Automatic fire sprinkler systems are a highly effective method of controlling or extinguishing a fire in its early stages; and

**Whereas** As students return to campuses across the Bay State this month, it is important to remind them of fire prevention and safety, hopefully reducing loss of life from this hazard,

**Now, Therefore, I, Deval L. Patrick**, Governor of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, do hereby proclaim September 2012 to be,

## CAMPUS FIRE SAFETY MONTH

And urge all the citizens of the Commonwealth to take cognizance of this event and participate fittingly in its observance.

Given at the Executive Chamber in Boston, this first day of March, in the year two thousand and twelve, and of the Independence of the United States of America, the two hundred and thirty-sixth.

By His Excellency

DEVAL L. PATRICK  
GOVERNOR OF THE COMMONWEALTH



WILLIAM FRANCIS GALVIN  
SECRETARY OF THE COMMONWEALTH

God Save the Commonwealth of Massachusetts