

116TH CONGRESS  
2D SESSION

# S. RES. 723

Designating September 2020 as “Campus Fire Safety Month”.

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IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

SEPTEMBER 24, 2020

Ms. COLLINS (for herself and Mr. CARPER) submitted the following resolution;  
which was considered and agreed to

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## RESOLUTION

Designating September 2020 as “Campus Fire Safety  
Month”.

Whereas campus-related housing fires at colleges in Texas, Oregon, Illinois, Pennsylvania, other States, and Washington, D.C. have tragically cut the lives of several young individuals short;

Whereas, since January 2000, at least 175 individuals, including students, parents, and children, have died in campus-related fires;

Whereas approximately 87 percent of those campus-related fire deaths occurred in off-campus housing;

Whereas a majority of college students in the United States live in off-campus housing;

Whereas a number of fatal fires have occurred in buildings in which the occupants had compromised or deactivated fire safety systems;

Whereas automatic fire alarm systems and smoke alarms provide early warning of a fire that is necessary for occupants of a building and the fire department to take appropriate action;

Whereas an automatic fire sprinkler system is a highly effective method of controlling or extinguishing a fire in its early stages, protecting the lives of building occupants;

Whereas many college students live in off-campus housing, a fraternity or sorority house, or a residence hall that is not adequately protected by an automatic fire sprinkler system, an automatic fire alarm system, or an adequate smoke alarm;

Whereas, due to the COVID–19 pandemic, college students are taking more courses online and spending more time indoors, thus increasing the need for fire safety and prevention education;

Whereas fire safety education is an effective method of reducing the occurrence of fires and the resulting loss of life and property damage;

Whereas college students do not routinely receive effective fire safety education while in college;

Whereas educating young individuals in the United States about the importance of fire safety is vital to help ensure that young individuals engage in fire-safe behavior during college and after college; and

Whereas developing a generation of adults who practice fire safety may significantly reduce future loss of life: Now, therefore, be it

1       *Resolved*, That the Senate—

2               (1) designates September 2020 as “Campus  
3       Fire Safety Month”; and

4               (2) encourages administrators of institutions of  
5       higher education and municipalities across the  
6       United States—

7                       (A) to provide educational programs about  
8       fire safety to all students of institutions of  
9       higher education in September and throughout  
10      the school year;

11                      (B) to evaluate the level of fire safety pro-  
12      vided in both on-campus and off-campus stu-  
13      dent housing; and

14                      (C) to ensure fire-safe living environments  
15      through—

16                               (i) fire safety education;

17                               (ii) the installation of fire suppression  
18      and detection systems and smoke alarms;

19      and

20                               (iii) the development and enforcement  
21      of applicable codes relating to fire safety.

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