

109TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. RES. 224

To express the sense of the Senate supporting the establishment of September as Campus Fire Safety Month, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JULY 29, 2005

Mr. DEWINE (for himself and Mr. BIDEN) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions

RESOLUTION

To express the sense of the Senate supporting the establishment of September as Campus Fire Safety Month, and for other purposes.

Whereas recent student housing fires in Ohio, Pennsylvania, Tennessee, and Maryland have tragically cut short the lives of some of the youth of our Nation;

Whereas since January 2000, at least 75 people, including students, parents, and children have died in student housing fires;

Whereas over three-fourths of these deaths have occurred in off-campus occupancies;

Whereas a majority of the students across the Nation live in off-campus occupancies;

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

Whereas it is recognized that automatic fire alarm systems provide the necessary early warning to occupants and the fire department of a fire so that appropriate action can be taken;

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

Whereas many students are living in off-campus occupancies, Greek housing, and residence halls that are not adequately protected with automatic fire sprinkler systems and automatic fire alarm systems;

Whereas 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;

Whereas students are not routinely receiving effective fire safety education throughout their entire college career;

Whereas it is vital to educate the future generation of our Nation about the importance of fire safety behavior so that these behaviors can help to ensure their safety during their college years and beyond; and

Whereas by developing a generation of fire-safe adults, future loss of life from fires can be significantly reduced: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved*, That the Senate—

2 (1) supports the establishment of September as

3 Campus Fire Safety Month;

1 (2) encourages administrators and municipali-
2 ties across the country to provide educational pro-
3 grams to all students during September and
4 throughout the school year; and

5 (3) encourages administrators and municipali-
6 ties to evaluate the level of fire safety being provided
7 in both on- and off-campus student housing and
8 take the necessary steps to ensure fire-safe living en-
9 vironments through fire safety education, installa-
10 tion of fire suppression and detection systems and
11 the development and enforcement of applicable codes
12 relating to fire safety.

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