



HR0658

LRB104 20458 RMO 33924 r

1

HOUSE RESOLUTION

2

WHEREAS, Home fires are the biggest element of the U.S. fire problem for civilians and responders; and

3

4

WHEREAS, According to the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA), 86% of all civilian structure fire deaths are in homes, and home fires cause \$9.4 billion in direct property damage each year; and

5

6

7

8

WHEREAS, Residential structure fires account for 66% of firefighter injuries, with over three times as many firefighter injuries occurring in residential rather than nonresidential structures, per the U.S. Fire Administration (USFA); and

9

10

11

12

13

WHEREAS, According to Underwriters Laboratories and the National Institute of Standards and Technology, home fires are deadlier today due to unprotected, lightweight construction material, open floor plans, abundant synthetic furnishings, and emerging technology such as lithium-ion batteries, which make homes burn faster, becoming deadly in two minutes or less; and

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

WHEREAS, The USFA estimates that home fire sprinklers could save thousands of lives each year if more were installed

21

1 in homes; and

2 WHEREAS, Fire sprinklers are a proven and cost-effective
3 means of protecting lives and property from the threat of
4 fire; and

5 WHEREAS, Fire sprinklers offer the highest degree of fire
6 protection and are critical in saving lives and property; and

7 WHEREAS, Fire sprinklers can control a fire, and thereby
8 the smoke, while it is still small and prevent a room from
9 being engulfed in flames, which can happen in under two
10 minutes, thereby saving the lives of occupants and first
11 responders; and

12 WHEREAS, The National Fire Sprinkler Association (NFSA)
13 reported that in the 18 years between January 1, 2007 and
14 December 31, 2024, Illinois has seen 1,131 fatalities and
15 4,171 injuries as a result of fires in one- and two-family
16 homes without fire sprinkler systems; and

17 WHEREAS, During that same 18-year period, there were zero
18 fatalities and only seven injuries in one- and two-family
19 Illinois homes with fire sprinkler systems; and

20 WHEREAS, Including fire sprinklers in local building codes

1 and community risk reduction supports fire service resources,
2 staffing, and budgets due to the increased safety of homes
3 with fire sprinklers, which improves communities and allows
4 fire service resources to be directed to those at highest
5 risk; and

6 WHEREAS, Stronger state and federal support of home fire
7 sprinkler education will help address confusion and anti-code
8 negativity while encouraging fire service advocacy for the
9 installation of home fire sprinklers; and

10 WHEREAS, Increased installation of fire sprinklers in new
11 homes will directly and indefinitely protect and improve
12 communities of every size; therefore, be it

13 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE
14 HUNDRED FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that
15 we declare May 10 through May 16, 2026 as Home Fire Sprinkler
16 Week in the State of Illinois; and be it further

17 RESOLVED, That suitable copies of this resolution be
18 presented to Alan Jacobs, chair of the Illinois Chapter of the
19 National Fire Sprinkler Association, and Janean Dyson,
20 Illinois member and chapter relations coordinator of the
21 National Fire Sprinkler Association.