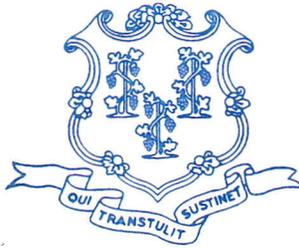


State of



Connecticut

By Her Excellency M. Jodi Rell, Governor: an

Official Statement

It has been 138 years since the great Chicago Fire destroyed nearly 20,000 structures, took lives and left 100,000 homeless. It has become a tradition for the American public to join the fire service community in memorializing this tragedy each year by observing Fire Prevention Week.

The theme of this year's Fire Prevention Week is "Stay Fire Smart, Don't Get Burned." Fire Prevention Week is being held October 4 – 10, 2009, throughout the United States. Members of the fire service, parents, teachers and young people get involved each year in an effort to remind everyone of the steps that can be taken to protect life and property from the dangers of fire.

Fourth & fifth grade students in Connecticut's schools have carried the fire prevention message, "Fire Prevention...Everyone, Everyday," into their schools and homes to emphasize the importance of fire safety. It is the slogan imprinted on every poster entered in the annual fire prevention poster contest in elementary schools throughout the state and has become familiar to thousands of students and their families. They have carried that message into their schools and homes for two decades since the Connecticut FAIR Plan and the Office of State Fire Marshal first sponsored this contest.

In Connecticut, it is traditional for the winning posters in the annual Fire Prevention Poster Contest for the State's fourth and fifth graders to be exhibited at the State Capitol during the month of October.

Therefore, I, M. Jodi Rell, Governor of the State of Connecticut, in recognition of the importance of this safety message from our school children to the people of this state, do hereby officially proclaim October 4 – 10, 2009, as

FIRE PREVENTION WEEK

in the State of Connecticut. I urge all our citizens to join me in a team effort to keep our homes, our classrooms and our workplaces safe from fire.



M. Jodi Rell
Governor