



STATE OF TEXAS  
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

In a fire, seconds count, and working smoke alarms can mean the difference between life and death. According to the National Fire Protection Association, U.S. fire departments responded to 369,500 home fires in 2014, and 2,745 civilian deaths were recorded that year due to home fires. Texas' first responders are dedicated to reducing these statistics, and the State of Texas is committed to ensuring the safety and security of our fellow citizens.

Fortunately, there are a few simple steps Texans can take to protect themselves and their families. First, everyone in the household should know the sound of the smoke alarm and what to do when they hear it. Homes should have interconnected smoke alarms in every bedroom, outside each sleeping area and on every level, including the basement. And smoke alarms should be tested every month and replaced after a maximum of 10 years.

Each year, a week in October is designated for a fire awareness campaign. This year's theme is "Don't Wait — Check the Date! Replace Smoke Alarms Every 10 Years." This campaign will remind Texans to enhance their safety by replacing alarms every 10 years and to check the age of their device by examining the date of manufacture on the back of the alarm.

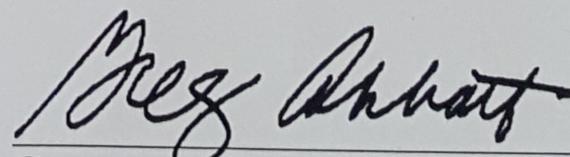
At this time, I encourage all Texans to ensure their smoke alarms are up to date, test their alarms and learn more about the important steps they can take to prevent fires.

Therefore, I, Greg Abbott, Governor of Texas, do hereby proclaim October 9–15, 2016, to be

## Fire Prevention Week

in Texas, and urge the appropriate recognition whereof.

In official recognition whereof, I hereby affix my signature this the 3<sup>rd</sup> day of October, 2016.

  
Governor of Texas

