



SR0708

LRB103 35630 ECR 65704 r

1 SENATE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, Home fires are the leading cause of fires in the  
3 U.S., affecting civilians and first responders; and

4 WHEREAS, According to data compiled by the National Fire  
5 Protection Association (NFPA), of all civilian structure fire  
6 deaths, 78% occur in one- and two-family homes, with home  
7 fires causing \$8.6 billion in direct property damage each  
8 year; and

9 WHEREAS, According to the NFPA, residential structure  
10 fires account for 63.7% of firefighter injuries; and

11 WHEREAS, According to the NFPA, regarding firefighter  
12 fatalities, 53% occur while fighting structure fires, and 82%  
13 occur while fighting fires at a residential dwelling; and

14 WHEREAS, Home fires are deadlier today than in the past as  
15 a result of an increase in the use of unprotected lightweight  
16 construction material, open floor plans, and abundant  
17 synthetic furnishings, and these dangers are amplified when  
18 the properties contain lithium ion batteries and other  
19 emerging technologies, making homes burn faster and causing  
20 them to become deadly in two minutes or less; and

1           WHEREAS, The U.S. Fire Administration estimates that home  
2 fire sprinklers could save thousands of lives each year if  
3 more were installed in homes; and

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

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

9           WHEREAS, A room can be engulfed in flames in less than  
10 three minutes; however, fire sprinklers can control fire and  
11 deadly smoke, saving the lives of occupants and first  
12 responders; and

13           WHEREAS, Residential fires without a sprinkler system have  
14 caused 3,667 injuries and 967 fatalities in Illinois since  
15 2007; and

16           WHEREAS, There have been only seven injuries and zero  
17 fatalities in residential fires with sprinkler systems in  
18 Illinois since 2007; and

19           WHEREAS, The inclusion of fire sprinklers in local  
20 building codes and in community risk reduction plans helps

1 support fire service resources, staffing, and budgets; when  
2 new housing stock includes sprinklers, those homes become  
3 safer, improving communities and allowing fire service  
4 resources to be directed to those at highest risk; and

5 WHEREAS, Stronger state and federal support of home fire  
6 sprinkler education will help address confusion and anti-code  
7 negativity and will encourage fire service advocacy in support  
8 of home fire sprinkler installation; and

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

12 RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED THIRD GENERAL  
13 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we declare the week of  
14 May 12 through May 18, 2024 as Home Fire Sprinkler Week in the  
15 State of Illinois; and be it further

16 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be  
17 presented to State Coordinator James Brown of the Illinois  
18 Chapter of the National Fire Sprinkler Association.