# STATE OF ILLINOIS

## EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

# Proclamation

**WHEREAS,** fire is a serious public safety concern both locally and nationally, and residential homes are where people are at the greatest risk of fire; and,

**WHEREAS,** according to the National Fire Incident Reporting System (NFIRS), Illinois fire departments responded to 15,557 home fires in 2018; and,

**WHEREAS,** Illinois home fires resulted in 105 civilian deaths in 2018, representing the majority (89 percent) of all Illinois fire deaths; and,

**WHEREAS,** it can take just a matter of seconds for a fire to block an exit from a burning building or home; and,

**WHEREAS,** basic actions, such as practicing a home fire drill, making sure the number of your home is marked clearly, and closing doors as you evacuate, are important to teach all members of a household; and,

**WHEREAS,** having a preparation plan can protect members of a household; and,

**WHEREAS,** being aware of multiple pathways to exits and knowledge of how to escape both during the day and at night can ensure safe escape in an emergency; and,

**WHEREAS,** planning two escape routes can provide an alternate exit in case a primary option is unsafe for escape; and,

**WHEREAS,** the 2019 Fire Prevention Week theme, *"Not Every Hero Wears A Cape - Plan and Practice Your Escape,"* effectively serves to educate the public about the vital importance of escape plans in case of fire;

**THEREFORE,** I, JB Pritzker, Governor of the state of Illinois, do hereby proclaim October 6-12, 2019, as **Fire Prevention Week** in Illinois and urge citizens to plan ahead in case of a fire emergency and to participate in the many public safety activities and efforts offered by Illinois fire and emergency services during Fire Prevention Week 2019.

**In Witness Whereof,** *I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Illinois to be affixed.*

*Done at the Capitol in the City of Springfield, this* _____SECOND_____ *day of* _____OCTOBER_____ *, in the Year of Our Lord, two thousand and* _____NINETEEN_____ *, and of the State of Illinois, two hundred and* _____FIRST_____ *.*

*Jesse White*
SECRETARY OF STATE

*JB Pritzker*
GOVERNOR