State of Connecticut

By Her Excellency M. Jodi Rell, Governor: an

Official Statement

*W*hereas, Fire Prevention Week was established to commemorate the Great Chicago Fire, the tragic 1871 conflagration that killed more than 250 people, left 100,000 homeless, destroyed more than 17,400 structures and burned more than 2,000 acres; and

*W*hereas, since 1984 fourth and fifth graders 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. This message has been carried for over two decades since the Connecticut FAIR Plan and the Office of State Fire Marshal first sponsored this contest; and

*W*hereas, fire is a serious public safety concern both locally and nationally, and homes are the locations where people are at greatest risk from fire, and the State of Connecticut is committed to ensuring the safety and security of all those living in and visiting our state; and

*W*hereas, Connecticut residents are responsive to public education measures and are able to take personal steps to increase their safety from fire; and

*W*hereas, the 2005 Fire Prevention Week theme, "Use Candles with Care: When You Go Out, Blow Out!" effectively serves to remind us all of the simple actions we can take to stay safer from fire during Fire Prevention Week and year-round; and

*W*hereas, using proper care with candles will have a positive effect on the home fire problem; and each candle fire that is prevented is an opportunity to prevent painful injury and costly property damage; now

*T*herefore, 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 proclaim October 9-15, 2005, as

FIRE PREVENTION WEEK
in the State of Connecticut.

M. Jodi Rell
Governor