

State of South Carolina

Governor's Proclamation

- WHEREAS, every 21 seconds, a fire department in the United States responded to a fire somewhere in the nation in 2022; and
- WHEREAS, fires nationally were responsible for 3,790 civilian deaths, and 72 percent of these fatalities in 2022 occurred in the home; and
- WHEREAS, fires nationally were responsible for 13,250 civilian injuries, and 75 percent of these injuries in 2022 were also related to fires in the home; and
- WHEREAS, an estimated \$18.0 billion in property damage nationally occurred as a result of fire in 2022; and
- WHEREAS, wildland/urban interface (WUI) related fires remain a concern nationwide with multibillion-dollar losses as a result in 2022; and
- WHEREAS, the fire service responds to a growing number of medical calls for service, surpassing 80 percent of total call volume in some jurisdictions; and
- WHEREAS, Community Risk Reduction (CRR) is a data-informed process to identify and prioritize local risks, followed by integrated and strategic investment of resources to reduce their occurrence and impact; and
- WHEREAS, the value of community support from local, state, and national partners to address community risks is recognized to meet the demands on paid, combination, and volunteer members of the fire service; and
- WHEREAS, the goal of CRR is to reduce the occurrence and impact of emergency events for both community members and emergency responders through deliberate action in the areas of the five E's of Education, Engineering, Enforcement, Emergency response, and Economic incentive; and
- WHEREAS, most fire-related and many medical calls for service are preventable, with the five E's performed as part of an integrated CRR program; and
- WHEREAS, Monday, January 15, 2024, is Martin Luther King Day and is nationally recognized as a National Day of Service and an opportunity for communities to reduce the risk in their community through a series of educational and other programs.
- NOW, THEREFORE, I, Henry McMaster, Governor of the great State of South Carolina, do hereby proclaim January 15-21, 2024, as

COMMUNITY RISK REDUCTION WEEK

throughout the state and encourage all South Carolinians to learn more about this grassroots initiative of fire service professionals across the nation to raise awareness of the importance of CRR in the fire service community and the opportunity to make our communities safer.



A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Henry McMaster".

HENRY McMASTER
GOVERNOR
STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA