

Expressing the need for national mandatory fire safety standards for products sold for use in the home such as candles, upholstered furniture, mattresses and bedding.

Whereas, the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) reports over 3,500 civilian fire deaths each year with approximately 81% taking place in residential buildings; and

Whereas, approximately 100 firefighters die in the line of duty each year; and

Whereas, over 20,000 people are injured each year in fires; and

Whereas, NFPA estimates that residential fires cause over \$10 billion in direct property damage each year; and

Whereas, of the many items first ignited in residential fires, upholstered furniture is the product most frequently involved in fire deaths, followed by mattresses and bedding, according to the US Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC). Candles were among the heat sources most likely to ignite the deadliest fires; and

Whereas, experts agree that collectively – and in combination with existing fire protection technologies – implementation of fire safety standards for candles, upholstered furniture, mattresses and bedding will save hundreds of lives, avoid thousands of serious injuries and prevent the loss of billions of dollars in property; Therefore,

Be it resolved, the Congressional Fire Services Institute National Advisory Committee supports legislation requiring the CPSC to enforce specific fire safety standards for all four of these products.