

## 2018 SESSION

ENROLLED

### HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 178

*Designating May, in 2018 and in each succeeding year, as Electrical Safety Month in Virginia.*

Agreed to by the House of Delegates, February 12, 2018

Agreed to by the Senate, March 5, 2018

WHEREAS, the most recent statistics from the National Fire Protection Association show that 45,000 home electrical fires occur annually, causing 420 deaths and more than 1,300 injuries across the nation; and

WHEREAS, property damage from home fires due to electrical failure or malfunction costs more than \$1.4 billion nationally each year; and

WHEREAS, according to the latest data, 154 workplace deaths and 106 non-workplace-related deaths were caused by electrical failure or malfunction in the nation, which were 15 percent and 18 percent increases, respectively, from 2015 to 2016; and

WHEREAS, citizens are advised and often required to protect their homes and families with proven fire prevention safety technologies, such as ground fault circuit interrupters, arc fault circuit interrupters, and tamper-resistant receptacles, and they are urged to install, test, and maintain properly an adequate number of smoke alarms; and

WHEREAS, all Virginians are encouraged to establish and practice electrical safety habits in the home, school, and workplace to reduce the number of electric-related fires, injuries, and deaths; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly designate May, in 2018 and in each succeeding year, as Electrical Safety Month in Virginia; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates transmit a copy of this resolution to the National Fire Protection Association so that members of the organization may be apprised of the sense of the General Assembly of Virginia in this matter; and, be it

RESOLVED FINALLY, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates post the designation of this month on the General Assembly's website.

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