## Proclamation by Governor Jim Justice

Whereas, the mission of the West Virginia School of Osteopathic Medicine ("WVSOM") is to educate students from diverse backgrounds as lifelong learners in osteopathic medicine and complementary health related programs; to support and develop graduate medical education training; to advance scientific knowledge through academic, clinical and basic science research; and to promote patient-centered, evidence based medicine; and

Whereas, WVSOM is dedicated to serving, first and foremost, the State of West Virginia and the health care needs of its residents, emphasizing primary care in rural areas; and

Whereas, WVSOM is a nationally recognized, fully accredited osteopathic medical school that is a national leader among both D.O. and M.D. medical schools in primary care, rural medicine, and family medicine; and is first among all medical schools in the United States graduating physicians who practice in rural areas; and

WVSOM's Statewide Campus system has become a great success in providing clinical education for third and fourth year WVSOM students, and encompasses partnerships with 65 hospitals, federally qualified health centers, and large medical clinics throughout West Virginia; and

Whereas, third and fourth year WVSOM students completed 1,434 rural clinical rotations in West Virginia and 234 rural clinical rotations outside of West Virginia this past academic year; and

Whereas, WVSOM has been recognized by The Chronicle of Higher Education for the seventh time as a Great College to Work For, and has also been included on the Honor Roll, which is a distinction awarded to institutions that are cited most often across all recognition categories; and

Whereas, graduates of WVSOM practice medicine in 48 of West Virginia's 55 counties and in all 50 states and the District of Columbia, making a significant contribution to the health care needs of the citizens of West Virginia and the nation; and

Whereas, the State of West Virginia and its citizens recognize the importance of WVSOM, its mission, programs, alumni, and overall impact on the State of West Virginia and the United States, and, as a symbol of the State's appreciation to WVSOM and in honor of its accomplishments and positive impact, it is fitting that the State of West Virginia appropriately recognize WVSOM by proclaiming a specific day in its honor.

Now, Therefore, Be it Resolved that I, Jim Justice, Governor of the Great State of West Virginia, do hereby proclaim *March 4, 2019* as:

## West Virginia School of Osteopathic Medicine Day

in the Mountain State and encourage all citizens to join me in this observance.

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

**Done** at the Capitol, City of Charleston, State of West Virginia, this the Twenty-seventh day of February, in the year of our Lord, Two Thousand Nineteen, and in the One Hundred Fifty-Sixth year of the State.

By the Governor:

Mac Warner Secretary of State