Proclamation by Governor Jim Justice

Whereas, West Virginia women of every race, class, and ethnic background have made historic contributions to the growth and strength of our State in countless recorded and unrecorded ways; and

Whereas, West Virginia women have played and continue to play critical economic, cultural, and social roles in every sphere of the life of the State by constituting a significant portion of the labor force working inside and outside of the home; and

Whereas, West Virginia women have played a unique role throughout the history of the State by providing the majority of the volunteer labor force; and

Whereas, West Virginia women were particularly important in the establishment of early charitable, philanthropic, and cultural institutions in our State; and

Whereas, West Virginia women of every race, class, and ethnic background served as early leaders in the forefront of every major progressive social change movement; and

Whereas, West Virginia women have served our country courageously in the military; and

Whereas, West Virginia women have been leaders, not only in securing their own rights of suffrage and equal opportunity, but also in the abolitionist movement, the emancipation movement, the industrial labor movement, the civil rights movement, and other movements, especially the peace movement, which create a more fair and just society for all; and

Whereas, despite these contributions, the role of West Virginia women in history has been consistently overlooked and undervalued, in the literature, teaching and study of West Virginia history.

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

Women's History Month

in the Mountain State and encourage all who read these words to share this proclamation, so the rich stories of the accomplishments of West Virginia women can be told and heard again and again to inspire others to make a difference in their communities and the lives of West Virginians.

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 First day of March, in the year of our Lord, Two Thousand Nineteen, and in the One Hundred Fifty-Sixth year of the State.

Sim Justice
Governor

By the Governor:

Mac Warner Secretary of State