## Proclamation by Governor Jim Justice

Whereas, Neuromyelitis Optica (NMO) is a rare and relatively unknown autoimmune disease that currently has no cure; and

Whereas, NMO attacks the central nervous system and can cause lifetime disability, including permanent blindness and paralysis; and

Whereas, the cause of NMO is still a mystery and there are a few approved treatments for the majority of patients with NMO; and

Whereas, when mistaken for other diseases, treatments can exacerbate NMO symptoms; and

Whereas, increasing awareness about NMO has caused NMO diagnoses to rise, as doctors have become more likely to recognize the varying manifestations of the disease; and

Whereas, the NMO community is dedicated to increasing awareness and understanding about this disease in order to promote research, improved patient care and outcomes, and to ultimately find a cure.

Now, Therefore, Be it Resolved that I, Jim Justice, Governor of the Great State of West Virginia, do hereby proclaim *March 2022* as:

## Neuromyelitis Optica Awareness Month

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 Nineteenth day of January, in the year of our Lord, Two Thousand Twenty-Two, and in the One Hundred Fifty-Ninth year of the State.



Jenn Justice
Governor

By the Governor:

Mac Warner
Secretary of State