Proclamation by Governor Jim Justice

Whereas, human milk provides both unique nutritional and non-nutritional benefits for an infant's growth and development; and

Whereas, human milk reduces the risk of infectious and chronic disease for both infants and mothers and, therefore, protects mothers' and infants' health; and

Whereas, the State of West Virginia, through the West Virginia Department of Health and Human Resources under the umbrella of the United States Department of Agriculture, promotes and supports breastfeeding as the best source of infant nutrition through the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants and Children (WIC) and other nutrition assistance programs, and encourages empowering mothers to meet their individual breastfeeding goals through breastfeeding support resources, including WIC; and

Whereas, the State of West Virginia joins professional health organizations and breastfeeding advocates worldwide including the American Academy of Pediatrics, the World Health Organization, and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention in celebrating World Breastfeeding Week on August 1-7 of each year to collaboratively raise awareness of the numerous benefits of breastfeeding; to strengthen the individual, family and community support for breastfeeding; to further strategies that promote breastfeeding practices; and to support increased breastfeeding rates in the State of West Virginia.

Now, Therefore, Be it Resolved that I, Jim Justice, Governor of the Great State of West Virginia, do hereby proclaim August 1-7, 2022 as:

West Virginia Breastfeeding Week

in the Mountain State and encourage all citizens to learn more about the benefits of human milk for the health of infants and mothers.

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-Sixth day of July, in the year of our Lord, Two Thousand Twenty-Two, and in the One Hundred Sixtieth year of the State.

Jim Justice Governor

By the Governor:

Mac Warner Secretary of State