Proclamation by Governor Jim Justice

Whereas, October 3-7, 2022, marks *Plasma Awareness Week* with observances throughout the United States designed to raise awareness of the importance of plasma donation and its impact on patients with rare diseases, recognize the contributions of plasma donors to saving and improving lives, and to increase understanding about life-saving plasma protein therapies and the conditions they treat; and

Whereas, plasma-derived and recombinant therapies, collectively known as plasma protein therapies, are unique, biologic products for which no substitutes exist, used to save and improve lives of individuals throughout West Virginia and the United States; and

Whereas, plasma protein therapies are used to treat many conditions including hemophilia and other bleeding disorders, primary immune deficiencies, alpha-1 antitrypsin deficiency, hereditary angioedema, chronic inflammatory demyelinating polyneuropathy, idiopathic thrombocytopenic purpura, and Rh negative pregnancies; and

Whereas, these therapies substantially increase quality of life, extend life expectancy, and improve patient outcomes for an estimated 500 individuals in the State of West Virginia; and

Whereas, plasma donors, as well as the staff who work a the 2 plasma donation centers in West Virginia are recognized as part of the state's essential, critical infrastructure.

Now, Therefore, Be it Resolved that I, Jim Justice, Governor of the Great State of West Virginia, do hereby proclaim *October 3-7, 2022* as:

Plasma Awareness Week

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 Twentieth day of September 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