Proclamation by Governor Jim Justice

Whereas, building awareness about industry professions allows us to promote the hard work, talent, and dedication of West Virginians who make our state's economy strong; and

Whereas, increasing public understanding about careers in today's advanced manufacturing world will provide a path for West Virginia's students to become professionals in the manufacturing workforce; and

Whereas, according to the National Association of Manufacturers, manufacturers in West Virginia account for 10.07% of the total output in the state, employing 7.01% of the workforce. Total output from manufacturing was \$7.94 billion in 2019. In addition, there were an average of 47,000 manufacturing employees in West Virginia in 2020, with an average annual compensation of \$74,726.77 in 2019;

Whereas, according to a study by the Manufacturing Institute and Deloitte, manufacturers expect to fill 4.6 million jobs nationally between now and 2028; and

Whereas, the manufacturing industry and West Virginia's educators have united to celebrate, promote, and educate students about the employment opportunities available in the state's manufacturing industry; and

Whereas, manufacturing education programs will build awareness, narrowing the skills gap and guiding West Virginia's youth into opportunities that will lead to exciting careers in manufacturing; and

Whereas, middle school career exploration and engagement opportunities with local manufacturers build awareness about the diversity of products made in our state and the employment options available; and

Whereas, project-based learning through pre-engineering and career technical education manufacturing programs helps students develop skills and talents needed in today's manufacturing workplace; and

Whereas, we recognize the valuable advanced technical skills and leadership abilities that students gain in these programs which prepare them for careers in the manufacturing sector; and

Whereas, in West Virginia, we celebrate and recognize students and educators across the Mountain State for their excellence and commitment to the next generation of workers in the manufacturing industry.

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

West Virginia Excellence in Manufacturing Education 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 September, in the year of our Lord, Two Thousand Twenty-Two, and in the One Hundred Sixtieth, lear of the State

Jim Justice Governor

Mac Warner Secretary of State