Proclamation by Governor Jim Justice

Whereas, West Virginia farmers provide citizens with access to healthful, locally and regionally produced foods through farmers markets, which are expanding and evolving to

accommodate the demand for a diverse array of agricultural products; and

Whereas, farmers markets provide infrastructure to assist in the distribution of farm and value-added products, thereby contributing approximately \$9 billion each year to the U.S. economy; and

Whereas, farmers markets serve as significant outlets by which agricultural producers market agricultural products, generating revenue that supports the sustainability of family farms and the revitalization of rural communities nationwide; and

Whereas, West Virginia recognizes the importance of expanding agricultural marketing opportunities that assist and encourage the next generation of farmers, generate farm income to help stimulate business development and job creation and build community connections through rural and urban linkages.

Now, Therefore, Be it Resolved that I, Jim Justice, Governor of the Great State of West Virginia, do hereby proclaim *August 6-12, 2023* as:

Farmers Market 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 Twenty-Fifth day of July, in the year of our Lord, Two Thousand Twenty-Three, and in the One Hundred Sixty-First year of the State.



Jim Justice Governor

By the Governor:

Mac Warner Secretary of State