## Proclamation by Governor Jim Justice

Whereas, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. devoted his life to advancing equality, social justice and opportunity for all, and challenged all Americans to participate in the never-ending work of building a more perfect union; and

Whereas, Dr. King's teachings can continue to guide and inspire us in addressing challenges in our communities; and

Whereas, in 1983, former President Ronald Reagan, signed into law a bill creating a national holiday to honor Martin Luther King, Jr.; and

Whereas, since millions of Americans have been inspired by the life and work of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. to serve their neighbors and communities on the King Holiday; and

Whereas, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. devoted his life's work to a vision: that all Americans would live free from injustice and enjoy equal opportunity granted by their Creator; and

Whereas, the lifelong movement of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. to end segregation and discrimination, brought our nation closer to the principles set forth in founding documents; and

Whereas, each of us has a duty to work together in unity to resist violence, hatred, and injustice in our communities; and

Whereas, citizens of West Virginia have an opportunity to participate in events throughout our State on Martin Luther King, Jr. Day to give back to our communities with service, engagement, and remembrance in honor of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

**Now, Therefore,** Be it Resolved that I, Jim Justice, Governor of the Great State of West Virginia, do hereby proclaim *January 15, 2024* as:

## Martin Luther King, Jr. Ecumenical Service Day

in the Mountain State and encourage all citizens to join me in paying tribute to the life and works of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. through participation in community service projects on the Martin Luther King, Jr. Day of Service and throughout the year.

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 Fifteenth of November, in the year of our Lord, Two Thousand Twenty-Three, and in the One Hundred Sixty-First year of the State.

SEMPER LIVERS

Jim Justice Governor

By the Governor:

Mac Warner Secretary of State