Proclamation by Governor Jim Justice

Whereas, each November, foster care and adoption entities nationwide implement activities, awareness programs, and other efforts to help build awareness for the thousands of children who are in foster care awaiting adoption; and

Whereas, West Virginia is committed to educating every citizen about the need for adoptive parents statewide when foster children cannot be safely reunified with their parents; and

Whereas, every child in West Virginia deserves love, support, security, and a family to help them fulfill a happy and productive life; and

Whereas, there are nearly 6,000 children in West Virginia's foster care system waiting to achieve permanency; and

Whereas, by providing a safe and nurturing environment for our children we can ensure they can reach their full potential as the next generation of West Virginia leaders, helping to secure the future of our state; and

Whereas, the collaboration of both public and private adoption agencies, including the West Virginia Department of Health and Human Resources, Mission WV, community agencies, religious organizations, businesses, resource/foster families, and others should be recognized for their commitment to the needs of children in West Virginia; and

Whereas, It is the privilege of this great State of West Virginia to publicly recognize and thank all families, individuals, communities, and agencies for their dedication and commitment to the greatest resource of our State, our children.

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

Adoption Awareness Month

In the State of West Virginia, I urge all citizens to change a life by sharing their hearts, opening their homes, and offering help to waiting foster children, adoption agencies, and the Adoption Social Services Staff working with them during this month 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 Thirty-First day of October, in the year of our Lord, Two Thousand Twenty-Four, and in the One Hundred Sixty-Second year of the State.

Jim Justice
Governor

By the Governor:

Mac Warner
Secretary of State