Proclamation by Governor Jim Justice

Whereas, West Virginia is proud to join the national celebration of Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month and invite West Virginians from all backgrounds to develop a deeper understanding and appreciation for the roles that Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders have play in our nation's history; and

Whereas, since 1979, Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month highlights two significant milestones; the immigration of the first Japanese individuals to the United States in May 1843 and the completion of the transcontinental railroad in May of 1869; and

Whereas, throughout our history, West Virginia has been a champion of human rights and condemns all forms of violence, bullying, discrimination, and crime that's rooted from hatred; and

Whereas, West Virginia is dedicated to fighting prejudice towards people of all races, cultures and nationalities, and to build bridges of understanding and respect within our diverse society; and

Whereas, during this month long observance, our Asian American and Pacific Islander communities will hold cultural and educational events that will enhance our perspectives.

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

Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month

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 First day of May, in the year of our Lord, Two Thousand Twenty-Four, and in the One Hundred Sixty-First year of the State.



Jim Justice Governor

By the Governor:

Mac Warner
Secretary of State