Proclamation by Governor Jim Justice

Whereas, the Great State of West Virginia is committed to recognizing that our growth and strength depends on the safety and essential role our homes, buildings and infrastructure play, both in everyday life and when disasters strike; and

Whereas, our confidence in the resilience of these buildings that make up our community is achieved through the devotion of vigilant guardians – building safety and fire prevention officials, architects, engineers, builders, tradespeople, design professionals, laborers, plumbers and others in the construction industry – who work year-round to ensure the safe construction of buildings; and

Whereas, these guardians are dedicated members of the International Code Council, a nonprofit that brings together local, state, territorial, tribal and federal officials who are experts in the built environment to create and implement the highest-quality codes to protect us in the buildings where we live, learn, work and play; and

Whereas, these modern building codes include safeguards to protect the public from hazards such as hurricanes, snowstorms, tornadoes, wildland fires, floods and earthquakes; and

Whereas, Building Safety Month is sponsored by the International Code Council to remind the public about the critical role of our communities' largely unknown protectors of public safety – our local code officials – who assure us of safe, sustainable and affordable buildings that are essential to our prosperity; and

Whereas, "Mission Possible," the theme for *Building Safety Month* 2024, encourages us all to raise awareness about building safety on a personal, local and global scale; and

Whereas, each year, in observance of *Building Safety Month*, people all over the world are asked to consider the commitment to improve building safety, resilience and economic investment at home and in the community, and to acknowledge the essential service provided to all of us by local and state building departments, fire prevention bureaus and federal agencies in protecting lives and property.

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

Building Safety Month

in the Mountain State and encourage all citizens to join me in 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 Thirteenth day of June, in the year of our Lord, Two Thousand Twenty-Four, and in the One Hundred Sixty-First year of the State.

Secretary of State

Jim Justice
Governor:

By the Governor: