Proclamation by Governor Jim Justice

Whereas, Civil Air Patrol (CAP) was founded on Dec. 1, 1941, to supplement civilian defense organizations and the U.S. military during World War II; and

Whereas, in 1948, CAP was designated as the U.S. Air Force's official auxiliary with three missions - emergency services, cadet programs and aerospace education; and

Whereas, in 2016, CAP was placed on equal footing as part of the Air Force's "Total Force" along with the active-duty elements, the Air National Guard and the Air Force Reserve; and

Whereas, the West Virginia Wing of CAP has 14 units throughout the state with a total of more than 600 volunteer cadet and senior members; and

Whereas,
the West Virginia Wing performs vital homeland security missions that help ensure the protection of our citizens, infrastructure, and the state as a whole, performing search and rescue, photographic, and other homeland security related missions and operations in support of the West Virginia Army and Air National Guard, West Virginia Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Management, and other state and local emergency and law enforcement agencies; and

Whereas, the West Virginia Wing with single engine aircraft, vehicles, and its all-volunteer force, trains for and is prepared to immediately respond to search, rescue, disaster relief, and other emergency and homeland security missions here in West Virginia; and

Whereas,

CAP also operates one of the most effective Drug Demand Reduction (DDR) programs in the nation, assisting units at all levels to instill an agressive, positive, drug-free attitude in CAP members, Air Force families, Department of Defense civilians, and school age children through a comprehensive program; and

Whereas, CAP provides exceptional educational and growth opportunities for youth through its nearly 30,000 - member strong cadet program, which annually provides access to top national summer flight academies to learn to fly powered or glider aircraft, as well as to more than 30 national programs emphasizing leadership and careers in aviation; and

Whereas, CAP's Aerospace Education Program annually touches more than 1,800 educators, more than 200,000 youths - cadets and others in classrooms across America - teaching multidisciplinary aviation concepts that emphasize aviation's connection to history, math, science, government and economics.

Now, Therefore, Be it Resolved that I, Jim Justice, Governor of the Great State of West Virginia, do hereby proclaim February 19, 2024 as:

Civil Air Patrol Day

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

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Jim Justice Governor

By the Governor:

Mac Warner Secretary of State