Proclamation by Governor Jim Justice

Whereas, one of the most meaningful gifts that a human being can bestow upon another is the gift of life through organ, eye and tissue donation; and

Whereas, an average of 20 lives are lost every day due to the lack of organs available for transplantation because another name is added to the national transplant waiting list every ten minutes; and

Whereas, the decision to become an organ donor can save up to eight lives and tissue donation can enhance many more; and

Whereas, every person should support this life saving effort by learning more about organ, eye and tissue donation, making their families aware of their wishes and registering online at www.DonateLifeWV.org, or when they receive or renew their West Virginia driver's license; and

Whereas, nationally, more than 100,000 people are waiting for an organ transplant, including 2,500 people in West Virginia and western Pennsylvania and at least 20 will die each day without receiving the transplant they so desperately need; and

Whereas, National Donate Life Month (NDLM) was established by Donate Life America and its partnering organizations in 2003, and helps raise awareness about donation, encourage Americans to register as organ, eye and tissue donors and to honor those that have saved lives through the gift of donation; and

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

Donate Life Month

in the Mountain State and encourage all citizens to give the Gift of Life through organ and tissue donation.

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

SEMPER LIGHT

Jim Justice Governor

By the Governor:

Mac Warner Secretary of State