Proclamation by Governor Jim Justice

Whereas, mental health is essential to everyone's overall health and affects almost every family in the United States; and

Whereas, only one out of two people with a serious form of mental illness seeks treatment; and

Whereas, fear of discrimination keep many who would benefit from mental health services from seeking help and research shows that the most effective way to reduce the stigma is through personal contact; and

Whereas, greater public awareness about mental illnesses can change negative attitudes and behaviors toward people with mental illnesses; and

Whereas, the citizens of West Virginia, government agencies, public and private institutions, businesses, and schools of our community are committed to increasing awareness and understanding of mental illnesses, reducing stigma and discrimination, and promoting appropriate and accessible services for all people with mental illnesses.

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

Mental Health Awareness 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 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.

SENSE STATES

Jim Justice Governor

By the Governor:

Mac Warner Secretary of State