## Proclamation by Governor Jim Justice

Whereas, the National School Lunch Program has served our nation admirably for 78 years through advanced practices, and nutrition education; and

Whereas, the health and well-being of children is a national priority and every student should have access to healthy school meals regardless of income; and

Whereas, when children are fueled by nutritious school lunches, they can more effectively focus and learn, increase academic performance, and succeed in and out of the classroom, while reducing the likelihood of childhood obesity by combatting food insecurity; and

Whereas, research shows children receive their healthiest meals at school; the National School Lunch Program offers students fruits, vegetables, whole grains, lean protein, and fat-free or low-fat milk with every school lunch; and

Whereas, every October, the School Nutrition Association and the U.S. Department of Agriculture join to celebrate National School Lunch Week; and

Whereas, we reaffirm our support of the National School Lunch Program and all farmers, ranchers, teachers, school nutrition professionals, and staff nationwide who make these lunches possible and work to feed nearly 30 million children at approximately 95,000 public and private schools nationwide each day.

Now, Therefore, Be it Resolved that I, Jim Justice, Governor of the Great State of West Virginia, do hereby proclaim October 14-18, 2024 as:

## National School Lunch Week

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 Twenty-Fifth day of September, in the year of our Lord, Two Thousand Twenty-Four, and in the One Hundred Sixty-Second year of the State.

SEMPER SEMPER

Jim Justice Governor

By the Governor:

Mac Warner Secretary of State