Proclamation by Governor Jim Justice

Whereas, students are the future and, by investing in them today, we are ensuring our world for tomorrow; and

Whereas, families deserve to feel confident that their children will be cared for when they are at school; and

Whereas, all students have a right to have their physical and mental health needs safely met while in the school setting;

Whereas, students today face more complex and life-threatening health problems requiring care in school; and

Whereas, school nurses have served a critical role in improving public health and in ensuring student's academic success for more than 120 years; and

Whereas, school nurses address the home and community factors (e.g. social determinants) that impact students' health; and

Whereas, school nurses are professional nurses who advance the well-being, academic success, and life-long achievements of all students by serving on the frontlines and providing a critical safety net for our nation's most fragile children; and

Whereas, school nurses act as liaisons to the school community, families, and healthcare providers on behalf of children's health by promoting wellness and improving health outcomes for our nation's children; and

Whereas, school nurses support the health and educational success of children and youth by providing access to care when children's cognitive development is at its peak; and

Whereas, school nurses are members of school-based teams (e.g. school health services, 504/IEP, disaster/emergency planning) providing care coordination to address the school population; and

Whereas, school nurses understand the link between health and learning and are in a position to make a positive difference for children every day.

Now, Therefore, Be it Resolved that I, Jim Justice, Governor of the Great State of West Virginia, do hereby proclaim May 8, 2024 as:

National School Nurse Day

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

SENSES LIGHT

Jim Justice Governor

By the Governor:

Mac Warner Secretary of State