## Proclamation by Governor Jim Justice

Whereas, the vending and convenience services industry in West Virginia generates an economic impact of more than \$428 million and \$107 million in wages; and

Whereas, the vending and convenience services industry has expanded in recent decades to include a wide array of convenience services and refreshments and has recently launched a national public health commitment; and

Whereas, vending and convenience services use cutting edge technology to deliver innovative options to consumers and during the COVID-19 pandemic, vending and convenience services served as an essential industry, providing food and beverages to fuel first responders and other critical industries; and

Whereas, the industry has committed to increase the percentage of healthier food and beverage options in the nation's vending machines to 33 percent; and

Whereas, the industry stands uniquely equipped to service food deserts and underserved communities throughout the nation through its supply chain, commissary and unique "last-foot" distribution expertise; and

Whereas, The National Automatic Merchandising Association (NAMA) has designated March 7, 2024 as "National Vending Day"; and

Whereas, the Great State of West Virginia is proud of all the business owners who own vending companies.

Now, Therefore, Be it Resolved that I, Jim Justice, Governor of the Great State of West Virginia, do hereby proclaim *March* 7, 2024 as:

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



Jim Justice Governor

By the Governor:

Mac Warner Secretary of State