Proclamation by Governor Jim Justice

Whereas, maintaining proper oral hygiene and preserving natural teeth are essential for optimal oral health, which impacts patients' overall health and well-being; and

Whereas, each year, over 15 million teeth are preserved through endodontic treatments, including root canal procedures, emphasizing the importance of saving natural teeth for improved appearance and maintaining essential functions such as chewing and speech; and

Whereas, endodontists, as highly skilled dental specialists, excel in diagnosing and treating tooth pain and infection through life-changing endodontic procedures, such as root canals, trauma dental injuries, vital pulp therapy, and apicoectomy, thereby safeguarding patients' natural teeth. With three additional years of training post-dental school, endodontists utilize advanced technology and specialized care to best treat tooth pain and infection; and

Whereas, endodontists dedicate their dental practice exclusively to endodontic treatments, performing an average of 25 root canal treatments weekly. They frequently collaborate with general dentists to ensure comprehensive dental care and employ a specialized approach that leads to better health outcomes and swift recovery for patients; and

Whereas, Teeth serve as vital components for nutrition, emotional expression, and overall health indicators. Neglecting oral hygiene can lead to various health complications. Regular dental visits, thorough brushing and flossing twice daily, and avoiding cavity-causing foods and habits are essential steps in maintaining gum, teeth, and mouth health.

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

Save Your Tooth Month

in the Mountain State and encourage all citizens to join me in observance and practice good oral hygiene to save their natural teeth.

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

SOUTH SENSER

Jim Justice Governor

By the Governor:

Mac Warner
Secretary of State