

Proclamation

by Governor Jim Justice

- Whereas,** the citizens of the State of West Virginia stand firmly committed to quality afterschool programs and opportunities because they provide safe, challenging, and engaging learning experiences that help children develop social emotional, physical and academic skills; and
- Whereas,** afterschool programs support working families by ensuring their children a safe and productive after the regular school day ends and build stronger communities by involving students, parents, business leaders, and adult volunteers in the lives of young people, thereby promoting positive relationships among youth, families and adults; and
- Whereas,** afterschool programs engage families, schools and community partners in advancing the welfare of our children; and
- Whereas,** the State of West Virginia has provided significant leadership in the area of community involvement in the education and well-being of our youth, grounded in the principle that quality afterschool programs are key to helping our children become successful adults; and
- Whereas,** Lights On Afterschool, the national celebration of afterschool programs held this year on October 20, 2022, promotes the importance of quality afterschool programs in the lives of children, families and communities; and
- Whereas,** 25 million families report they would enroll their children in an afterschool program if one were available; and
- Whereas,** many afterschool programs across the country are facing funding shortfalls so severe that they are being forced to close their doors and turn off their lights; and
- Whereas,** the State of West Virginia is committed to investing in the health and safety of all young people by providing expanded learning opportunities that will help close the achievement gap and prepare young people to compete in the global economy.

Now, Therefore, Be it Resolved that I, Jim Justice, Governor of the Great State of West Virginia, do hereby proclaim **October 20, 2022** as:


Lights on Afterschool Day

in the Mountain State and encourage all citizens to join me in this observance to ensure the lights stay on and the doors stay open for all children after school.


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 Twentieth day of September, in the year of our Lord, Two Thousand Twenty-Two, and in the One Hundred Twentieth year of the State.




Jim Justice
Governor

By the Governor:


Mac Warner
Secretary of State