

# Proclamation

## by Governor Jim Justice

- Whereas,** rural communities in West Virginia and throughout the United States are wonderful places to live and work – they are places where people know each other, listen to and respect each other, and work together to benefit the community; and
- Whereas,** rural citizens possess a selfless, creative, community-minded spirit; and
- Whereas,** meeting the unique healthcare needs of those citizens is constantly evolving, as rural communities face accessibility issues, lack of healthcare providers, an aging population suffering from a greater number of chronic conditions, and larger percentages of uninsured and underinsured citizens; and
- Whereas,** ambulatory and emergency medical services are especially critical in rural America, where 20% of the nation's population lives but nearly 60% of all trauma deaths occur; and
- Whereas,** rural hospitals are typically the economic foundation of their communities, with every dollar spent generating about \$2.20 for the local economy; and
- Whereas,** being a rural healthcare provider affords tremendous opportunities to offer more comprehensive, compassionate, patient-centered, and holistic care to patients; and
- Whereas,** The West Virginia Department of Health and Human Resources, Bureau for Public Health, State Office of Rural Health, along with the National Organization of State Offices of Rural Health and many rural stakeholders, play a distinct and critical role by leading efforts to address the unique healthcare needs of our rural citizens.

**Now, Therefore,** Be it Resolved that I, Jim Justice, Governor of the Great State of West Virginia, do hereby proclaim *November 17, 2022* as:


## *National Rural Health 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 Fourth day of November, in the year of our Lord, Two Thousand Twenty-Two, and in the One Hundred Sixtieth year of the State.



  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Jim Justice  
Governor

*By the Governor:*

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Mac Warner  
Secretary of State