

Proclamation

by Governor Jim Justice

- Whereas,** each year in West Virginia, approximately 1,133 people are diagnosed with colorectal cancer, and 453 die from this cancer; and
- Whereas,** the West Virginia Cancer Burden Report identifies CRC as the second leading cause of cancer-related deaths in West Virginia; and
- Whereas,** colorectal cancer is also the second-leading cause of cancer deaths in the United States among men and women combined; and
- Whereas,** colorectal cancer is one of the few cancers that can be prevented with timely screening, but one in three eligible Americans are not up-to-date on screening; and
- Whereas,** the National Cancer Institute estimates that there could be as many as 4,500 additional colorectal cancer deaths because of the drop in screening due to COVID-19; and
- Whereas,** colorectal cancer is estimated to be the number one cause of death due to cancer for those ages twenty to forty-nine years old by 2030; and
- Whereas,** Black Americans are 20% more likely to be diagnosed with colorectal cancer and about 40% more likely to die from the disease than other groups; and
- Whereas,** colorectal cancer is expected to account for 11% of cancer deaths among Hispanic men and 9% of cancer deaths for Hispanic women; and
- Whereas,** the national goal established by the National Colorectal Cancer Roundtable is to strive to increase timely colorectal cancer screening rates to 80 percent in every community for all Americans eligible for screening; and
- Whereas,** observing *Colorectal Cancer Awareness Month* during the month of March would provide a special opportunity to increase awareness and offer education on the importance of early detection and screening of colorectal cancer.

Now, Therefore, Be it Resolved that I, Jim Justice, Governor of the Great State of West Virginia, do hereby proclaim *March 2023* as:

Colorectal Cancer Awareness Month

in the Mountain State and encourage all citizens to join me in this observance.

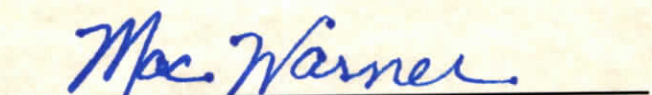
In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of West Virginia to be affixed.

Done at the Capitol, City of Charleston, State of West Virginia, this the Ninth day of February, in the year of our Lord, Two Thousand Twenty-Three, and in the One Hundred Sixtieth year of the State.




Jim Justice
Governor

By the Governor:


Mac Warner
Secretary of State