

Proclamation

by Governor Jim Justice

Whereas, the State of West Virginia is a leader in supporting highway-rail grade crossing and pedestrian safety programs; and

Whereas, highway-rail grade crossing crashes during 2022 resulted in no one killed but eight people were seriously injured in the State of West Virginia; and

Whereas, pedestrian/railroad incidents on railroad property during 2022 resulted in eight persons killed and another four seriously injured in the State of West Virginia; and

Whereas, highway grade crossing crashes are more severe than highway collisions and are more likely to result in death and injury; and

Whereas, collisions between trains and motor vehicles or pedestrians could have been prevented by increased public awareness of the dangers at crossings and around railroad property and the appropriate safety laws; and

Whereas, West Virginia Operation Lifesaver is the foremost public information and education program dedicated to preventing highway-rail grade crossing crashes and pedestrian/railroad trespass incidents; and

Whereas, on September 18 – 23, 2023, and throughout the year, all citizens are encouraged to observe added caution as motorists of pedestrians near tracks or trains; and

Whereas, this important observance should lead to greater safety awareness and a reduction in highway-rail grade crossing crashes and pedestrian/railroad trespass incidents during this week and throughout the year.

Now, Therefore, Be it Resolved that I, Jim Justice, Governor of the Great State of West Virginia, do hereby proclaim *September 18-23, 2023* as:

West Virginia Rail Safety Week

in the Mountain State and encourage all citizens to participate in activities to reduce crossing crashes and pedestrian/railroad trespass incidents during this week and throughout the year.


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-Eighth Day of August, in the Year of our Lord, Two Thousand Twenty-Three, and in the One Hundred Sixty-First Year of the State.




Jim Justice
Governor

By the Governor:


Mac Warner
Secretary of State