

Proclamation

by Governor Jim Justice

- Whereas,** autism spectrum disorder affects an estimated 1 in 36 children and there are approximately 10,000 autistic children in West Virginia; and
- Whereas,** West Virginia schools have tracked a 250% increase in autistic students receiving special education services in the last decade; and
- Whereas,** autism is a complex condition that affects each person differently, resulting in unique strengths and challenges; and
- Whereas,** autism can cause challenges with verbal and nonverbal communication, social interaction, and repetitive behaviors; and
- Whereas,** early diagnosis and interventions that are tailored to each individual's needs can have lifelong benefits, easing the transition to adulthood by fostering greater independence; and
- Whereas,** each person and family affected by autism should have access to reliable information and support; and
- Whereas,** autistic people should have opportunities to reach their full potential; and
- Whereas,** the Great State of West Virginia is honored to take part in the annual observance of *World Autism Awareness Month* to address the diverse needs of individuals with autism and their families.

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

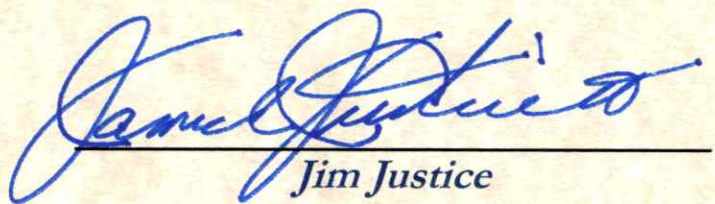
World Autism Awareness Month

in the Mountain State and encourage all citizens to join me in 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 Tenth day of April, in the year of our Lord, Two Thousand Twenty-Four, and in the One Hundred Sixty-First year of the State.




Jim Justice
Governor

By the Governor:


Mac Warner
Secretary of State