

Proclamation

by Governor Jim Justice

- Whereas,** there are over 400,000 West Virginians with disabilities, these individuals with disabilities, like all others, have the right to live, work, and fully participate in their communities in order to realize their dreams; and
- Whereas,** people with disabilities have the right to an equal opportunity to live full productive lives as valued citizens in the community or setting of their choice; and
- Whereas,** people with disabilities have the right to receive the supports they need to exercise self-determination, achieve independence, and become productive employees in the workplace; and
- Whereas,** West Virginia's citizens with disabilities have banded together in a collective group, the Fair Shake Network, to help bring their concerns to the forefront of public awareness; and
- Whereas,** the Fair Shake Network has developed a statewide network concerned with all types of disabilities and all age groups, providing opportunities for people to learn from each other and take action together; and
- Whereas,** the Fair Shake Network has become a credible source of information for policymakers, advocates, and the public on policies and programs that impact people with disabilities; and
- Whereas,** Organizations such as the Mountain State Centers for Independent Living, Northern West Virginia Center for Independent Living, Appalachian Center for Independent Living, Statewide Council for Independent Living, Whole Families, Mountain State Parents Child and Adolescent Network, WV Statewide Rehabilitation Council, WV Parent Training and Information Center, WV Autism Training Center, The Grant Advantage, National Association of Social Workers WV Chapter, Disability Rights of WV, Olmstead Council, Bartlett Housing Solutions, WV Division of Rehabilitation Services, Wayne County Dep of Health and Human Resources, Open Doors, Inc., WVU Center on Excellence In Disabilities, WV Aging & Disability Resource Center, WV Association. of the Deaf, The Arc of the Mid-Ohio Valley, WV Developmental Disabilities Council, Stevenson, LLC. WV Human Rights Commission, Eastern Panhandle Deaf Alliances, WV Center on Budget and Policy have joined together to help increase public awareness of issues and concerns involving West Virginians with disabilities through the Fair Shake Network; and
- Whereas,** the purpose of Jan Lilly-Stewart Disability Advocacy Day is to increase the awareness and understanding of legislators, administrators, policymakers, and the public about the issues that are important to individuals with disabilities.

Now, Therefore, Be it Resolved that I, Jim Justice, Governor of the Great State of West Virginia, do hereby proclaim *January 17, 2024* as:

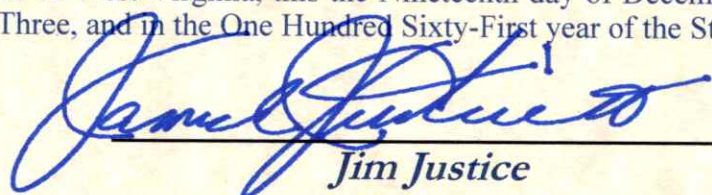
Jan Lilly-Stewart Disability Advocacy Day


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 Nineteenth day of December, in the year of our Lord, Two Thousand Twenty-Three, and in the One Hundred Sixty-First year of the State.




Jim Justice
Governor


Mac Warner
Secretary of State