

Proclamation

by Governor Jim Justice

Whereas, we acknowledge that reading sets the foundation for academic success and prepares children to develop into thoughtful leaders as they follow their own dreams; and

Whereas, we recognize that children's access to books at an early age has a critical impression on their minds and skills, reinforces reading proficiency to build their own futures and learn about the world around them; and

Whereas, we acknowledge the decades long illustrious career of singer-songwriter, guitarist, actress, and icon Dolly Rebecca Parton; and

Whereas, we acknowledge her commitment to the educational achievement of children in Appalachia and around the world through her creation of the Dollywood Foundation which works to reduce dropout rates of students, offer scholarships to further education, and provide support for families who lost their homes to wildfires; and

Whereas, we recognize her commitment to early childhood literacy through the initiation of the Dolly Parton Imagination Library and mailing more than 2 million free, high-quality books to participating children from birth to five each month; and

Whereas, we appreciate the opportunity for the State of West Virginia to join the Imagination Library and become one of eleven states in the nation to boast participation in every county, delivering more than 3 million books to West Virginia children since 2007, fostering an appreciation of reading for generations to come.

Now, Therefore, Be it Resolved that I, Jim Justice, Governor of the Great State of West Virginia, do hereby proclaim **August 9, 2022** as:


Dolly Parton's Imagination Library Day

in the Mountain State and encourage all citizens to observe this occasion by acknowledging the importance of early literacy and encouraging eligible families to participate in this program.

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 Sixteenth day of June, in the year of our Lord, Two Thousand Twenty-Two, and in the One Hundred Fifty-Ninth year of the State.





Jim Justice
Governor

By the Governor:



Mac Warner
Secretary of State