

**STATE OF WEST VIRGINIA**  
**EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT**

**At Charleston**

**A PROCLAMATION**

**By the Governor**

**WHEREAS**, Thanksgiving Day is November 23, 2023, and is an opportunity for citizens across the nation to give thanks for the many blessings of life; and

**WHEREAS**, the day after Thanksgiving, also known as Lincoln's Day, is a state holiday, providing an additional day off work for friends and family in the Mountain State to spend together in celebration of the beginning of the holiday season; and

**WHEREAS**, in recognition of the hard work accomplished by the public employees of this State over the past several years, and in the spirit of showing gratitude to those hardworking employees, it is fitting and proper that the public employees of this State be permitted to cease business for the last half of the workday on November 22, 2023, to extend their Thanksgiving celebration with loved ones;

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, JIM JUSTICE**, pursuant to the foregoing and by virtue of the authority vested in me as the Governor of the State of West Virginia, do hereby **PROCLAIM** and **ORDER** that the public employees of this State may be excused from their work duties on the last half of Wednesday, November 22, 2023, without charge against accrued annual leave; and do further **PROCLAIM** that this **ORDER** shall not affect private businesses, local governments, and other entities and individuals not employed by the State of West Virginia; nor shall it affect the work requirements of those public employees who may be called upon to safeguard the health,

safety, and welfare of West Virginia's citizenry and who will be compensated in accordance with the legislative rules established by the West Virginia Division of Personnel; however, in accordance with subsection (c), section one, article two, chapter two of the Code of West Virginia, county commissions may designate the last half of Wednesday, November 22, 2023, as a half-day of time off for county employees without charge against accrued annual leave, and the courts may treat the day as if it were a half-day legal holiday.

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF**, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of West Virginia to be affixed.



**By the Governor**

**DONE** at the Capitol in the City of Charleston, State of West Virginia, this Twenty-First Day of November, in the Year of our Lord, Two Thousand Twenty-Three, and in the One Hundred Sixty-First Year of the State.

**GOVERNOR**

**SECRETARY OF STATE**