

# Proclamation

## by Governor Jim Justice

- Whereas,** childhood apraxia of speech (CAS) is an extremely challenging speech disorder that affects 1 in 1,000 children; and
- Whereas,** childhood apraxia of speech causes children to have significant difficulty learning to speak and is among the most severe speech deficits in children; and
- Whereas,** children diagnosed with apraxia require early, appropriate, and intensive speech therapy, often for many years to learn to speak; and
- Whereas,** without appropriate speech therapy intervention, children with apraxia will have diminished communication skills and are placed at high risk for secondary impacts in reading, writing, spelling, and other school-related skills; and
- Whereas,** primary and secondary impacts can diminish a child's future independence, employment opportunities, and challenge their ability to become productive, contributing citizens if not resolved or improved; and
- Whereas,** public awareness about childhood apraxia of speech in West Virginia is essential for families of children with this neurological disorder and the professionals who support them to achieve the needed services for those learning to use their own voice.

**Now, Therefore,** Be it Resolved that I, Jim Justice, Governor of the Great State of West Virginia, do hereby proclaim *May 14, 2024* as:

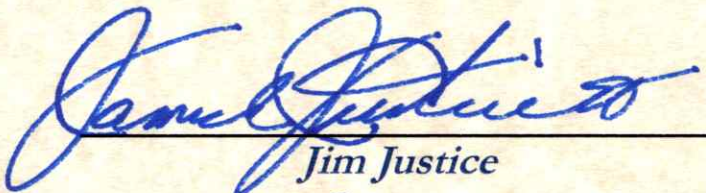
### *Apraxia Awareness Day*

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 Fourteenth day of May, 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