

# Proclamation

## by Governor Jim Justice

- Whereas,** West Virginia has been home to some of the country's most influential African-American scholars and leaders; and
- Whereas,** Dr. Carter G. Woodson, taught high school in Winona, West Virginia; was principal of Douglass High School in Huntington, West Virginia; served as Academic Dean at West Virginia Collegiate Institute, now West Virginia State University; and founded what is today's Black History Month; and
- Whereas,** Dr. Leon Sullivan, born October 16, 1922, in Charleston, West Virginia, was the first African-American member of the Board of Directors at the General Motors Corporation and his "Sullivan Principles" played a key role in the downfall of apartheid; and
- Whereas,** Booker T. Washington, raised in Malden, West Virginia, founded Alabama's Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute in 1881, and was the foremost black educator of the late 19th and early 20th centuries; and
- Whereas,** Henry Louis Gates, born in Piedmont, West Virginia, in 1950, is a renowned educator, scholar, literary critic, and writer; and
- Whereas,** the Herbert Henderson Office of Minority Affairs was established in 2012 by the West Virginia Legislature; and
- Whereas,** *Black History Month* is a time set aside to reflect on the achievements of the African-American community and recognize and honor these contributions.

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

### *Black History Month*

in the Mountain State and encourage all citizens to recognize the many contributions made by African-Americans in West Virginia and the nation.

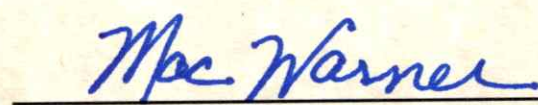
**In Witness Whereof,** I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of West Virginia to be affixed.

**Done** at the Capitol, City of Charleston, State of West Virginia, this the Seventeenth day of January, 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