

Proclamation

by Governor Jim Justice

- Whereas,** April 2024 marks the 56th Anniversary of Title VIII of the Civil Rights Act of 1968, known as the Civil Rights Fair Housing Act; and
- Whereas,** the purpose of the federal Fair Housing Act was to end inequities in housing systems, eliminate racial segregation and guarantee all Americans have the right to obtain housing of their choice, free from discrimination; and
- Whereas,** in 1992, the West Virginia Legislature enacted the State Fair Housing Act which prohibits discrimination in housing accommodations or real property based on race, religion, color, national origin, ancestry, sex, blindness, disability, or familial status; and
- Whereas,** the West Virginia Human Rights Commission fully supports the intent and purpose of the federal and state Fair Housing Acts and follows policies and practices in order to achieve its goal; and
- Whereas,** housing is a critical component of family and community health and stability; and
- Whereas,** the denial of these rights to properly qualified persons by reason of race, religion, color, national origin, ancestry, sex, age, blindness, disability, or familial status is contrary to the principles of freedom and equality of opportunity and is destructive to a free and democratic society; and
- Whereas,** the West Virginia Human Rights Commission is charged to implement and enforce the provisions of the Act, as well as encourage and endeavor to bring about mutual understanding and respect among all racial, religious, and ethnic groups within the state; and
- Whereas,** the West Virginia Human Rights Commission strives to eliminate all discrimination in employment, places of public accommodations, and housing; and
- Whereas,** the West Virginia Human Rights Commission works cooperatively with government agencies, community and civic organizations, and representatives of minority groups to promote programs and campaigns devoted to the achievement of tolerance, understanding, and equal protection of the law; and
- Whereas,** the West Virginia Commission continues in its power and authority under West Virginia law to perform the functions and services as prescribed by law and reaffirms its mission to all residents of West Virginia.

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


Fair Housing Month

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 First day of April, 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