

Proclamation

by Governor Jim Justice

- Whereas,** the first years of a child's life are the period of the most rapid brain development and lay the foundation for all future learning; and
- Whereas,** high-quality early childhood programs provide important benefits to children, families, and our state and national economies; and
- Whereas,** high quality early care and education helps build strong developmental foundations for young children during the years of greatest brain development, leading to positive outcomes for individual children, and helping them be better prepared for school and more likely to succeed in life; and
- Whereas,** participation in high-quality early childhood education saves taxpayer dollars, makes working families more economically secure, prepares children to succeed in school, earn higher wages, and live healthier lives; and
- Whereas,** high-quality early childhood education depends on high-quality early childhood educators who ensure that children, supported by families, have the early experiences they need for a strong foundation; and
- Whereas,** young children need developmentally appropriate, accessible, and available early care and education settings; and
- Whereas,** young children need skilled, educated, competent, consistent, and compensated early childhood educators; and
- Whereas,** working families need sufficient high-quality child care spaces beginning at birth to be available in the community; and
- Whereas,** working families need robust subsidies, scholarships, and tax credits for families at all income levels that support the true cost of quality early childhood education.

Now, Therefore, Be it Resolved that I, Jim Justice, Governor of the Great State of West Virginia, do hereby proclaim *April 6-12, 2024* as:

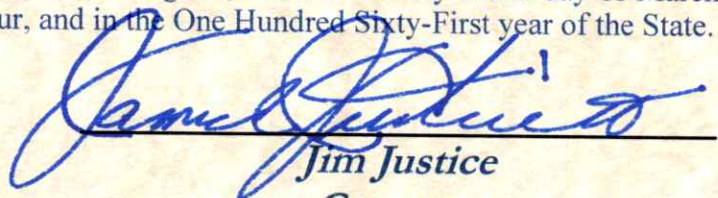
The Week of the Young Child

in the Mountain State and encourage all citizens to join me in this observance.

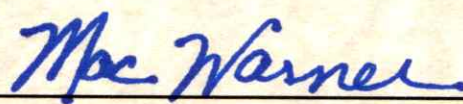
In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of West Virginia to be affixed.

Done at the Capitol, City of Charleston, State of West Virginia, this the Twenty-Ninth day of March, 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