

# Proclamation

## by Governor Jim Justice

- Whereas,** END EPILEPSY® Day is a nationwide effort of the Epilepsy Foundation to raise awareness about, and change the conversation around, epilepsy and seizures, to engage everyone in the fight to END EPILEPSY®, as well as to improve and save lives through care, advocacy, research and new therapies, and education; and
- Whereas,** epilepsy is a brain disorder characterized by recurrent and unprovoked seizures that can affect anyone, at any age, any time; and
- Whereas,** approximately 3.4 million people in the U.S. including 21,500 in WV live with epilepsy and seizures; and
- Whereas,** many treatments are approved to treat seizures, 30 – 40% of people with epilepsy still live with uncontrolled seizures and the epilepsy-related medical costs associated with uncontrolled epilepsy are 2 to 10 times higher than those of controlled epilepsy; and
- Whereas,** annual epilepsy-specific healthcare costs can be up to \$19,749 per person and 21% of people with epilepsy have reported not being able to afford their prescription medication(s) in the last year; and
- Whereas,** 470,000 children live with epilepsy in the U.S. and students with epilepsy aged 6 – 17 years old have missed 11 or more days of school the past year on average, greater education and improved access to care is needed in schools which can be accomplished by passing Seizure Safe Schools legislation nationwide; and
- Whereas,** protections exist in the Americans with Disabilities Act and related civil rights laws, people with epilepsy still encounter discrimination in areas including employment, education and housing; and
- Whereas,** epilepsy can affect anyone with a brain, and anyone with a brain can affect epilepsy; and
- Whereas,** through action together on END EPILEPSY® Day and during other awareness initiatives, including International Epilepsy Day, National Epilepsy Awareness Month, and Brain Awareness Week – and any day of the year – we must increase public knowledge about epilepsy and seizure first aid and change the way people think about epilepsy and seizures.

**Now, Therefore,** Be it Resolved that I, Jim Justice, Governor of the Great State of West Virginia, do hereby proclaim **November 2019** as:

## *Epilepsy Awareness Month*

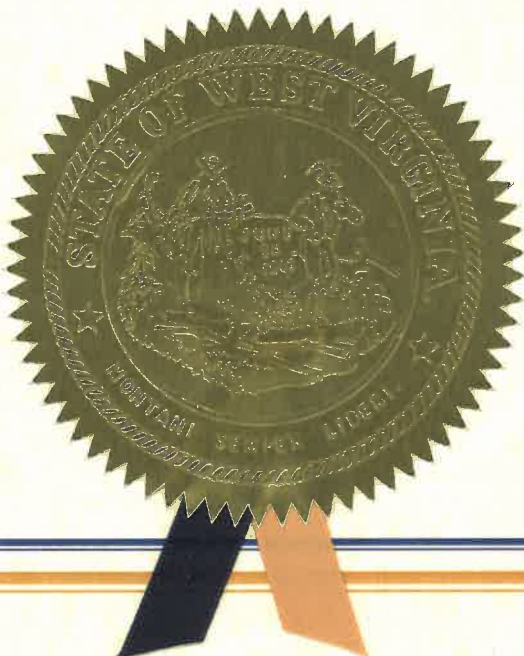
and **November 26, 2019** as:

## *End Epilepsy Day*

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 Eighth day of November, in the year of our Lord, Two Thousand Nineteen, and in the One Hundred Fifty-Seventh year of the State.



  
Jim Justice  
Governor

*By the Governor:*

  
Mac Warner  
Secretary of State