

Proclamation

by Governor Jim Justice

- Whereas,** West Virginia is committed to ensuring the safety and security of all those living in and visiting the Mountain State; and
- Whereas,** fire is a serious public safety concern both locally and nationally, and homes are the locations where people are at greatest risk from fire; and
- Whereas,** home fires killed 2,630 people in the United States in 2017, according to the National Fire Protection Association® (NFPA®), and fire departments in the United States responded to 357,000 home fires; and
- Whereas,** the majority of US fire deaths (4 out of 5) occur at home each year; and
- Whereas,** the fire death rate per 1000 home fires reported to US fire departments was 4 percent higher in 2017 than in 1980; and
- Whereas,** when the smoke alarm sounds West Virginia's residents may have less than two minutes to escape to safety; and
- Whereas,** West Virginia's residents who have planned and practiced a home fire escape plan are more prepared and will therefore be more likely to survive a fire; and
- Whereas,** West Virginia's residents should make a home escape plan, drawing a map of each level of the home, showing all doors and windows; and
- Whereas,** West Virginia's residents should practice the home fire escape plan with everyone in the household, including visitors. Household members should practice the home fire escape drill at least twice a year, during the day and at night; and
- Whereas,** West Virginia's residents should teach children to escape on their own in case adults can't help them; and
- Whereas,** West Virginia's residents should make sure everyone in the home knows how to call 9-1-1 or the local emergency number from a cell phone or a neighbor's phone. In a real emergency everyone in the home should get low and go under the smoke to get out quickly; and
- Whereas,** West Virginia's residents should get out and stay out, never going back inside for people, pets, or things; and
- Whereas,** West Virginia's residents are responsive to public education measures and are able to take action to increase their safety from fire, especially in their homes; and
- Whereas,** the 2019 *Fire Prevention Week* theme, "Not Every Hero Wears a Cape. Plan and Practice Your Escape!™" effectively serves to remind us that we need to take personal steps to increase our safety from fire.

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

Fire Prevention Month

and **October 6-12, 2019** as:

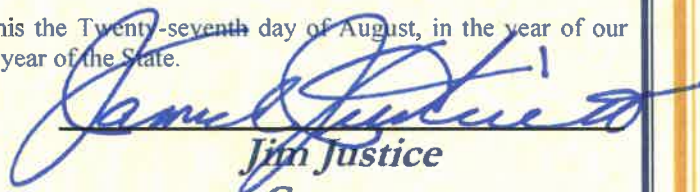
Fire Prevention Week

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-seventh day of August, 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