

# Proclamation

## by Governor Jim Justice

- Whereas,** in 2019 childhood cancer remains the number one disease-related killer of our nation's children, and each year cancer kills more children than asthma, juvenile diabetes, cystic fibrosis and pediatric AIDS combined; and
- Whereas,** nationally, forty-three children, between birth and the age of twenty, will be diagnosed with cancer every day, totaling more than 15,780 children per year, and in West Virginia, there are more than seventy five children diagnosed annually; children treated at WVU Children's Hospital in Morgantown; Edwards Comprehensive Cancer Center at Hoops Children's Hospital/Cabell Huntington Hospital in Huntington and CAMC Children's Cancer Center with physician services provided by WVU Physicians of Charleston; and
- Whereas,** even though the childhood cancer community is making remarkable breakthroughs in cancer treatments and improving survival rates, one out of every eight children nationwide continue to die daily as a result of childhood cancer; on average, there are seventy-one potential life years lost when a child dies of cancer; and
- Whereas,** childhood cancer occurs regularly, randomly and spares no ethnic group, socioeconomic class, or geographic region. Nationally, the incidence of cancer among adolescents and young adults is increasing at a greater rate than any other age group, except those over 65 years; and
- Whereas,** a childhood cancer diagnosis is a family diagnosis and is a tremendous emotional and financial burden for the family and child to bear; the average cost of a stay in a hospital for a child with cancer is \$40,000 per stay; on average, cancer costs almost five times as much as hospitalizations for other pediatric conditions; and
- Whereas,** since 1980, only four cancer medications have been specifically developed for children; less than four percent of the federal government's total funding for cancer research is dedicated to childhood cancers each year; and
- Whereas,** *National Childhood Cancer Awareness Month* recognizes the courage and compassion of those children and their families throughout West Virginia and the nation who have, are currently battling childhood cancer; and
- Whereas,** all children affected by cancer, their families, medical professionals, caregivers, and friends join West Virginia Kids Cancer Crusaders, Inc., to continue the collaborative efforts of a support network, raise awareness and funds for those affected by childhood cancer, and make a positive difference for patients, families, and survivors in the future.

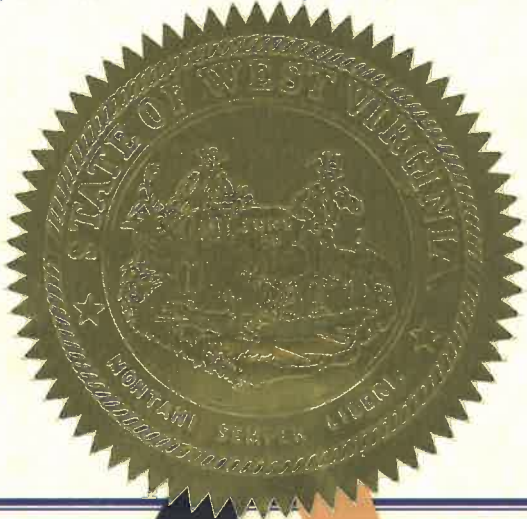
**Now, Therefore,** Be it Resolved that I, Jim Justice, Governor of the Great State of West Virginia, do hereby proclaim *September 2019* as:

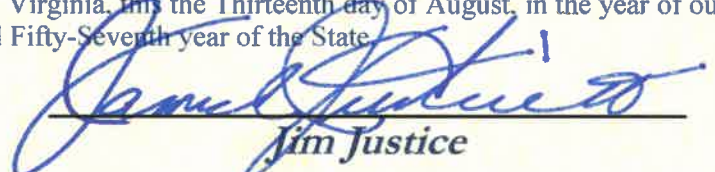
### *National Childhood Cancer Awareness Month*

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



  
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Jim Justice  
Governor

*By the Governor:*

  
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Mac Warner  
Secretary of State