

# Proclamation

## by Governor Jim Justice

- Whereas,** Pancreatic cancer is the third leading cause of cancer-related death in the United States and is anticipated to become the second in the next few years; and
- Whereas,** Pancreatic cancer is one of the nation's deadliest cancers, with a five-year survival rate of just 9 percent; and
- Whereas,** in 2019, an estimated 56,770 people will be diagnosed with pancreatic cancer in the United States, and approximately 45,750 will die from the disease; and
- Whereas,** in 2019, it is estimated that 1,475 West Virginians will be diagnosed with this deadly cancer; and
- Whereas,** Pancreatic cancer is the ninth most commonly diagnosed cancer in women and the tenth most commonly diagnosed cancer in men; and
- Whereas,** risk factors for developing pancreatic cancer include family history of the disease, age, chronic or hereditary pancreatitis, smoking, obesity and long-standing diabetes; and
- Whereas,** Pancreatic cancer may cause only vague symptoms that could indicate many different conditions within the abdomen or gastrointestinal tract. Symptoms include pain (usually abdominal or back pain), weight loss, jaundice (yellowing of skin and eyes), loss of appetite, nausea, changes in stool and recent on-set diabetes; and
- Whereas,** the location of the pancreas deep in the abdominal cavity is a factor hindering early detection of pancreatic cancer; and
- Whereas,** surgical removal of the tumor is possible in less than 20 percent of patients with adenocarcinoma, the most common type of pancreatic cancer. Chemotherapy and/or radiation may be offered before or after surgery; and
- Whereas,** there are complex biological features of pancreatic tumor that distinguish it from many other cancer types; and
- Whereas,** the good health and well-being of the citizens of West Virginia are enhanced as a direct result of increased awareness about pancreatic cancer and research into early detection, causes and effective treatments; and
- Whereas,** this month brings support to those patients currently battling pancreatic cancer, as well as those who have lost their battle to this disease.

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

## ***Pancreatic 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 the Twenty-first day of October, 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