

**STATE OF WEST VIRGINIA**

**EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT**

**At Charleston**

**A PROCLAMATION**

**By the Governor**

**WHEREAS**, Robert (“Bob”) Stephen Kiss was born in Elizabeth, New Jersey, the son of the late Matthew Joseph Kiss, Sr. and Catherine Elizabeth Schnarr; and

**WHEREAS**, Bob Kiss received his B.A. Degree in Economics from The Ohio State University in 1976 and his Juris Doctorate from The Ohio State University Moritz College of Law in 1982; and

**WHEREAS**, Bob Kiss was a member of the West Virginia House of Delegates for 18 years, serving as House Finance Chairman from 1993 to 1996 and Speaker of the House of Delegates from 1997 to 2006; and

**WHEREAS**, Speaker Kiss returned to public service as Governor Earl Ray Tomblin’s Cabinet Secretary for the West Virginia Department of Revenue from 2013 to 2016; and

**WHEREAS**, in addition to his public service as a Legislator and Cabinet Secretary, Speaker Kiss was a trusted counselor, with his law practice focused primarily in the areas of tax, estate planning, and commercial law, representing individuals, families, and businesses throughout this State and beyond; and

**WHEREAS**, Speaker Bob Kiss, a committed and respected public servant, and a devoted son, husband, father, brother, uncle, friend, and neighbor, died on November 5, 2021; and

**WHEREAS**, Speaker Bob Kiss is survived by his wife, Melinda Ashworth Kiss; sons, Cameron Kiss and Carter Kiss; his sister, Mary Beth (Charles) Heacock; his brothers Michael (Sharon) Kiss, Joseph (Barbara) Kiss, and Matthew Kiss; and many nieces and nephews, great nieces and nephews, and friends and colleagues. He was preceded in death by his parents and his niece, Jordan Kiss; and

**WHEREAS**, the citizens of the State of West Virginia, friends, and colleagues of Speaker Bob Kiss desire to recognize his dedicated public service to the Great State of West Virginia, and to acknowledge his valuable contributions to the State.

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, JIM JUSTICE**, by virtue of the authority vested in me as the Governor of the State of West Virginia, do hereby **ORDER** that, in commemoration of the distinguished life and service of West Virginia Speaker Bob Kiss, the United States and West Virginia State flags displayed on all State-owned facilities throughout West Virginia shall be lowered to half-staff, from dawn to dusk on the November 9, 2021, the day of services celebrating his life.

**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 in the City of Charleston, State of West Virginia, this the Eighth day of November, in the year of our Lord, Two Thousand Twenty-One, and in the One Hundred Fifty-Ninth year of the State.



  
**GOVERNOR**

**By the Governor**

  
**SECRETARY OF STATE**