

STATE OF WEST VIRGINIA

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

At Charleston

A PROCLAMATION

By the Governor

WHEREAS, Orphy Michael Klempa was born on the October 9, 1951, the son of the late Jacob and Geneva (Ricer) Klempa; and

WHEREAS, Orphy Klempa graduated from Bellaire High School in 1970 and completed an apprenticeship for the Union Carpenters and WVNCC; and

WHEREAS, Orphy Klempa was a service representative of the Mid-Atlantic Regional Council of Carpenters WV District, retiring after 48 years as a member of the United Brotherhood of Carpenters & Joiners of America International Union; and

WHEREAS, Orphy Klempa served as Financial Secretary of Carpenters Local #3, Secretary and Instructor of the Carpenters Joint Apprenticeship & Training Committee, as well as the Secretary of the WV Joint Labor Union/Management Apprenticeship & Training Committee, the Vice-President of the Upper Ohio Valley Building & Construction Trades Council, the President of the WV State Council of Carpenters, and Co-Chairman of Project BEST; and

WHEREAS, Orphy Klempa was elected to the West Virginia House of Delegates in 2006 representing the 3rd House District, serving until 2010 when he was elected to represent the 1st Senatorial District; and

WHEREAS, Orphy Klempa served as Chairman of the Board of Trustees of the River Valley Health Foundation and served as a board member for The Friends of WVNCC, the Board of Trustees at OVMC, the Board of Directors for the Wheeling Area Chamber of Commerce, the Wheeling Convention & Visitors' Bureau, the Ohio County Development Authority, the United Way of the Upper Ohio Valley, and the Board of Governors at WVNCC; and

WHEREAS, Senator Orphy Klempa, a committed and respected public servant and a devoted son, husband, father, grandfather, brother, uncle, friend, and neighbor, died on October 11, 2021; and

WHEREAS, Senator Orphy Klempa is survived by his wife, Mary Jo (Gray) Klempa; his five children, Orphy (Kim) Klempa Jr., Jeremy (Sara) Klempa, Shannah (Jason) Balsei, Justin (Brooke) Klempa and Ricki Jo; four siblings, Rae (Kim) Scott, Geneva (Craig) Blacker, Joe (Debi) Klempa and John (Gina) Klempa; one sister-in-law, Jean Ann (Keith) Park; ten grandchildren, Genae Klempa, Jodi (Garryn) Clark, Orphy Klempa III, Torrey Klempa, Emily Klempa, Scott Balsei, Chloe Klempa, Jaxon Balsei, Elijah Klempa and Lincoln and numerous nieces and nephews; he was preceded in death by his parents and sister, Lorrie Jo Klempa Davis; and

WHEREAS, the citizens of the State of West Virginia, friends, and associates of Senator Orphy Klempa 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 Senator Orphy Klempa, the United States and West Virginia State flags displayed at the Capitol Complex in Charleston, West Virginia, and at all State facilities throughout Ohio County, West Virginia, shall be lowered to half-staff from dawn to dusk on the October 16, 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 Fifteenth day of October, in the year of our Lord, Two Thousand Twenty-one, and in the One Hundred Fifty-Ninth year of the State.



James E. Cantor
GOVERNOR

By the Governor

Mac Warner
SECRETARY OF STATE