Proclamation
by Governor Jim Justice

Whereas, the well-being of children and families should be of the highest priority; and

Whereas, there are more than 6,600 children in out-of-home placement in the State of West Virginia; and

Whereas, every child deserves a safe and loving family, where permanency is possible for all children, and that the single most important thing that we can do to promote positive long-term outcomes for children is to connect them with stable families that can support children and biological families through foster care; and

Whereas, kinship and resource/foster families open their homes to support children and their families during crisis and play a vital role in helping children reunite with their caregivers or find permanency when reunification is not possible; and

Whereas, there are many individuals in public and private organizations who work to increase awareness of the needs of children in out-of-home placement; and

Whereas, the State of West Virginia recognizes that there is a great need for kinship and resource/foster families to serve the number of children in out-of-home placement; and

Whereas, the State of West Virginia appreciates those who tirelessly work and sacrifice to ensure the right of every West Virginia child to have a safe, healthy, and happy childhood.

Now, Therefore, Be it Resolved that I, Jim Justice, Governor of the Great State of West Virginia, do hereby proclaim May 2022 as:

Foster Care 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 Fifth day of May, in the year of our Lord, Two Thousand Twenty-Two, and in the One Hundred Fifty-Ninth year of the State.

[Signature]
Governor

By the Governor:

[Signature]
Mac Warner
Secretary of State