

Proclamation

by Governor Jim Justice

- Whereas,** the bald eagle was designated as the United States' national emblem on June 20, 1782, by our country's Founding Fathers at the Second Continental Congress; and
- Whereas,** the bald eagle is unique to North America and represents such American values and attributes as freedom, courage, strength, spirit, justice, quality, and excellence; and
- Whereas,** the bald eagle is the central image used in the Great Seal of the United States and in the logos of many branches of the United States Government, including the President, Congress, the Department of Defense, the Department of Treasury, the Department of Justice, the State Department, the Department of Commerce, and the United States Postal Service; and
- Whereas,** the bald eagle's image, meaning, and symbolism have played a significant role in the beliefs, traditions, religions, lifestyles, and heritage of Americans from all walks of life, including the United States military service men and women and members of various civic, fraternal, patriotic, veteran, youth, conservation, educational, outdoors, nature, sportsmen, wildlife, political, and sports organizations; and
- Whereas,** the bald eagle's image, meaning and symbolism have played a significant role in American art, music, literature, architecture, commerce, education, culture; and on United States stamps, currency and coinage; and
- Whereas,** the bald eagle was once endangered with possible extinction, and is making a gradual and encouraging comeback to America's skies; and
- Whereas,** the bald eagle was federally classified as an "endangered species" in the lower 48 states under the Endangered Species Act in 1973, and was upgraded to a less imperiled "threatened" status under that Act in 1995; and
- Whereas,** the Department of Interior and U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service delisted the Bald Eagle from Endangered Species Act protection in 2007, but will continue to be protected under the Bald & Golden Eagle Protection Act and the Migratory Bird Treaty Act; and
- Whereas,** the recovery of the United States of America's bald eagle population was largely accomplished due to the vigilant efforts of numerous caring agencies, corporations, organizations and citizens.

Now, Therefore, Be it Resolved that I, Jim Justice, Governor of the Great State of West Virginia, do hereby proclaim *June 20, 2023* as:

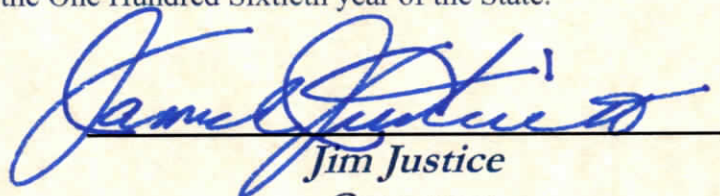
American Eagle Day

in the Mountain State and urge all citizens to join me in support of the majestic bald eagle's continuing recovery and the protection of its precious natural habitat, and in commemorating the living and symbolic presence of our national bird.

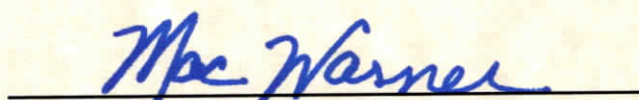
In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of West Virginia to be affixed.

Done at the Capitol, City of Charleston, State of West Virginia, this the Fifth day of April, in the year of our Lord, Two Thousand Twenty-Three, and in the One Hundred Sixtieth year of the State.




Jim Justice
Governor

By the Governor:


Mac Warner
Secretary of State