

# Proclamation

## by Governor Jim Justice

- Whereas,** a sense of belonging is essential to the well-being and readiness of military families; and
- Whereas,** Blue Star Families seek to empower military families by connecting them with their neighbors, individuals, and organizations to create vibrant communities of mutual support; and
- Whereas,** Blue Star Families annually designates the week beginning the second to last Saturday in September and concluding eight days thereafter as “*Blue Star Welcome Week*”; and
- Whereas,** during this week, we recognize the 600,000 active-duty and transitioning military families who move to new communities each year; and
- Whereas,** nearly half of these permanent change of station (PCS) moves occur during the summer; and
- Whereas,** only 33% of military family respondents to the 2022 Military Family Lifestyle Survey reported that they feel a sense of belonging to their local civilian community; and
- Whereas,** Blue Star Families are committed to ensuring that military and veteran-connected families feel a strong sense of belonging to their local civilian communities; and
- Whereas,** Blue Star Families express our gratitude for the sacrifices made by service members, transitioning Veterans, and their families.

**Now, Therefore,** Be it Resolved that I, Jim Justice, Governor of the Great State of West Virginia, do hereby proclaim *September 23 – October 1, 2023* as:

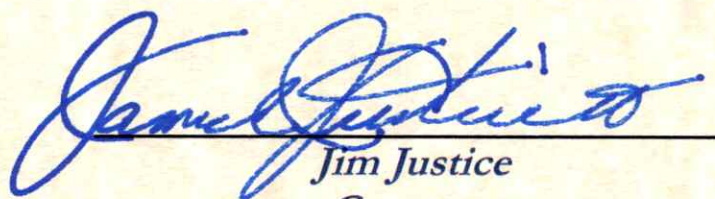
### *Blue Star Welcome Week*

in the Mountain State and encourage civilians nationwide to welcome military and veteran-connected families into their communities

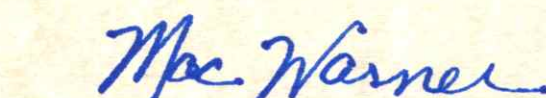
**In Witness Whereof,** I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of West Virginia to be affixed.

**Done** at the Capitol, City of Charleston, State of West Virginia, this the Eighteenth day of August, in the year of our Lord, Two Thousand Twenty-Three, and in the One Hundred Sixty-First year of the State.



  
Jim Justice  
Governor

*By the Governor:*

  
Mac Warner  
Secretary of State