## Proclamation by Governor Jim Justice

Whereas, Computer Science Education Week highlights the crucial role that computer science plays in transforming our society and how it enables innovation and creates economic opportunities; and

Whereas, computing technology is an integral part of culture and is transforming how people interact with each other and the world around them; and

Whereas, computer science is transforming industry, creating new fields of commerce, driving innovation in all fields of science, and bolstering productivity in established economic sectors; and

Whereas, the field of computer science underpins the information technology sector of our economy, which is a significant contributor to United States economic output; and

Whereas, the field of computer science is a foundational science for the digital age; and

Whereas, the information technology sector is uniquely positioned to help with economic recovery through the research and development of new innovations; and

Whereas, the outlook for computer science jobs is bright with one in every two STEM jobs in the country in computing; and

Whereas, providing students the chance to participate in high-quality computer science activities exposes them to the rich opportunities the field offers and provides critical thinking skills that will serve them throughout their lives; and

Whereas, all students deserve a thorough preparation in computer science education, including access to qualified teachers, technology, and age-appropriate curriculum needed to learn computer science at the elementary and secondary levels of education; and

Whereas, the field of computer science is working to address workforce diversity issues, including attracting more participation by females and underrepresented minorities in all areas of computer science; and

Whereas, computer science education has challenges to address, including counting computer science classes towards high school graduation requirements, and providing professional development for computer science teachers; and

Whereas, participating in an Hour of Code during Computer Science Education Week can serve to demystify the field of computer science and encourage more students to take up further studies of computer science; and

Whereas, West Virginia's commitment to advancing science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) education is vital to preparing our students to compete globally for careers and ensure that the next generation of West Virginia workers are prepared for the jobs of tomorrow.

Now, Therefore, Be it Resolved that I, Jim Justice, Governor of the Great State of West Virginia, do hereby proclaim *December 4-10, 2023* as:

## Computer Science Education Week

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 Second day of November, 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