## Proclamation by Governor Jim Justice

Whereas, one in every 2,500 pregnancies is diagnosed with Congenital Diaphragmatic Hernia (CDH); and

Whereas, Congenital Diaphragmatic Hernia occurs when a baby's diaphragm fails to fully form; allowing abdominal organs into the chest cavity and preventing lung growth; and

Whereas, CDH is as common as Spina Bifida and Cystic Fibrosis; however, very few people know about it or are aware of it; and

Whereas, there are many people living in West Virginia who have been diagnosed with and have survived their CDH, although many families in West Virginia have endured the horrible pain and grief associated with the loss of loved ones with CDH; and

Whereas, CDH International is a charity is a 501(c)III organization that was created to help families affected by CDH; and

Whereas, those with CDH often endure multiple surgeries and possible medical complications beyond their diagnosis that include heart defects, pulmonary complications, gastric and intestinal problems, developmental delays, and may require respiratory and medicinal support for years; and

Whereas, raising awareness of this congenital defect will help bring about acceptance and support for those suffering from it and will help advocate for urgently needed medical research and advances.

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

## Congenital Diaphragmatic Hernia Awareness 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 Twentieth day of February, 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