

# Proclamation

## by Governor Jim Justice

- Whereas,** the health and well-being of all children throughout our state are of importance to West Virginia families and communities; and
- Whereas,** thousands of children are born with birth defects every year, including approximately 40,000 children in United States who begin life with one of more than thirty-five identified forms of congenital heart defects; and
- Whereas,** congenital heart defects are among our state's most common birth defect and they can be fatal due to their seriousness, insufficient effective medical intervention options and the limited availability of infant donor hearts; and
- Whereas,** the origins and symptoms of congenital heart defect are becoming more readily identifiable and the range of surgical options are expanding continuously thanks to doctors' and scientists' diligent research efforts and field experiences that extend our body of knowledge every day; and
- Whereas,** there is much to learn about effective treatments for congenital heart defects and it is important for parents, pediatricians, and nurses to recognize the warning signs associated with congenital heart defects among newborns so they may provide proper treatment as early as possible; and
- Whereas,** many West Virginia families and communities are directly or indirectly by infant illness and death caused by Congenital Heart Defects; and
- Whereas,** *Congenital Heart Defect Awareness Week* brings awareness and provides an opportunity for families whose lives have been affected to celebrate life and to remember loved ones lost, to honor dedicated health professionals, and to meet others and know they are not alone.

**Now, Therefore,** Be it Resolved that I, Jim Justice, Governor of the Great State of West Virginia, do hereby proclaim *February 7-14, 2023* as:


### *Congenital Heart Defect Awareness Week*

in the Mountain State and encourage all citizens to join me in this observance.

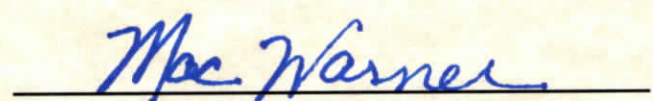
**In Witness Whereof,** I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of West Virginia to be affixed.

**Done** at the Capitol, City of Charleston, State of West Virginia, this the Sixth 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