

# Proclamation

## by Governor Jim Justice

**Whereas,** afterschool programs provide innovative, hands-on opportunities for youth to reengage in their learning and connect with caring adults and peers in a safe and supportive environment; and

**Whereas,** afterschool programs support working families by ensuring their children are safe and productive when they are out of their classrooms thereby promoting positive relationships among youth, families, and adults; and

**Whereas,** nearly 25 million families reported that they would enroll their child in an afterschool program if one were available; and

**Whereas,** many afterschool programs across the country are facing operating challenges so severe that they are forced to consider closing their doors and turning off their lights; and

**Whereas,** *Lights On Afterschool Day* promotes the importance of quality afterschool programs in the lives of children, families, and communities; and

**Whereas,** the Great State of West Virginia has provided significant leadership in the area of community involvement in the education and well-being of our youth, grounded in the principle that quality afterschool programs are key to helping our children become successful adults; and

**Whereas,** the citizens of the Mountain State stand firmly committed to quality afterschool programs and opportunities because they provide safe and engaging learning experiences, build stronger communities, and engage families, schools, and community partners in advancing the welfare of our children; and

**Whereas,** the Great State of West Virginia is committed to investing in the health and safety of all young people by providing expanded learning opportunities that help our children learn and grow while helping them develop the skills essential for success in life and work.

**Now, Therefore,** Be it Resolved that I, Jim Justice, Governor of the Great State of West Virginia, do hereby proclaim *October 26, 2023* as:


### *Lights on Afterschool Day*

in the Mountain State and encourage all citizens to join me in 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 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