

Proclamation

by Governor Jim Justice

- Whereas,** giving babies the recommended immunizations by age two is the best way to protect them from 14 serious childhood diseases; and
- Whereas,** the United States has the safest, most effective vaccine supply in its history; and
- Whereas,** vaccine-preventable diseases still circulate in the United States and around the world, so continued vaccination is necessary to provide protection from potential outbreaks; and
- Whereas,** even when diseases are rare in the United States, they can be brought into the country, putting unvaccinated children at risk; and
- Whereas,** when people are unvaccinated, outbreaks of diseases like pertussis (whooping cough) and measles can and do return; and
- Whereas,** it is important to vaccinate children on time, according to the childhood immunization schedule, to provide the best protection early in life, when babies are vulnerable and before they are likely to be exposed to disease; and
- Whereas,** since 1994, *National Infant Immunization Week* has encouraged parents, caregivers, and healthcare professionals to participate in educational, recognition, and media events to increase awareness of the importance of immunizing children before their second birthday; and
- Whereas,** this year, *National Infant Immunization Week* will be celebrated as part of World Immunization Week, an initiative of the World Health Organization (WHO) where all WHO regions will simultaneously promote immunization, advance equity in the use of vaccines and universal access to vaccination services, and enable cooperation on cross-border immunization activities; and
- Whereas,** the week of April 24 – 30, 2023, has been declared *National Infant Immunization Week* to help ensure that children are protected against 14 vaccine-preventable diseases by the age of two.

Now, Therefore, Be it Resolved that I, Jim Justice, Governor of the Great State of West Virginia, do hereby proclaim *April 24-30, 2023* as:


National Infant Immunization 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 Seventh day of April, 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