## Proclamation by Governor Jim Justice

Whereas, the week of April 3-9, 2023, is *National Public Health Week* and the theme is Centering and Celebrating Cultures in Health; and

Whereas, since 1995, the American Public Health Association, through its sponsorship of National Public Health Week has educated the public, policymakers, and public health professionals about issues important to the public's health; and

Whereas, there is a significant difference in health status in areas such as obesity, mental health, and substance use in rural areas due to social determinants that negatively affect health, such as poverty, transportation barriers, and lack of economic opportunity; and

Whereas, public health professionals help communities prevent, prepare for, withstand, and recover from the impact of a full range of health threats, including disease outbreaks and natural disasters; and

Whereas, public health action, combined with scientific and technological advances, has played a major role in reducing and in some cases eliminating the spread of infectious disease, as well as establishing disease surveillance and control systems; and

Whereas, public health is essential to the safety and well-being of West Virginia's families, communities, and future; and

Whereas, the West Virginia Department of Health and Human Resources, Bureau for Public Health, and its partners at the local, state, and national level work together to provide programs and essential services which cover the lifespan from newborn care to death certificates, and from drinking water to emergency medical services.

Now, Therefore, Be it Resolved that I, Jim Justice, Governor of the Great State of West Virginia, do hereby proclaim *April 3-9, 2023* as:

## National Public Health Week

in the Mountain State and encourage all state residents to take an active role in efforts to improve health outcomes for our great state.

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 Twenty-ninth day of March, 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