Proclamation by Governor Jim Justice

Whereas, summer is a difficult time for children who depend on school meals; and

Whereas, ninety-three percent of West Virginia students who rely on these meals do not participate in the Summer Food Service Program; and

Whereas, through partnership and collaboration, the State of West Virginia has made tremendous strides in improving access to nutritious meals for children during the summer; and

Whereas, the West Virginia Department of Education, Office of Child Nutrition, administers the USDA Summer Food Service Program to ensure that children can continue to receive nutritious meals during the summer at locations such as community centers, faith-based locations, parks, and schools; and

Whereas, the West Virginia Department of Education plays a significant role in helping schools provide meals to children in need during the summer; and

Whereas, it is critical to raise public awareness of hunger and nutrition, the necessity of the Summer Food Service Program, and the importance of increased access to the various meal sites in communities throughout West Virginia; and

Whereas, West Virginians can text "Food" to 304-304 to find free summer meal sites near them.

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

Summer Food Service Program Day

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 Thirty-first day of May, 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