

# Proclamation

## by Governor Jim Justice

- Whereas,** Ehlers-Danlos Syndrome is a connective tissue disorder with 13 subtypes that affect between 1 in 5,000-20,000 people; and
- Whereas,** the disorder causes widespread pain, joint hypermobility, tissue fragility, GI problems, fatigue, instability, headaches, autonomic dysfunction, and other symptoms across several systems of the body; and
- Whereas,** there is no cure and is only treated by each individual symptom, which may require several different medical professionals to manage the care; and
- Whereas,** Ehlers-Danlos Syndrome is highly unknown, and the most common type does not currently have a gene associated with it, as research is very limited; and
- Whereas,** access to medical professionals who know the disease in the state of West Virginia is extremely limited, which causes most patients to leave the state in order to receive care; and
- Whereas,** it is estimated that it takes approximately 10 years to get diagnosed with Ehlers-Danlos Syndrome due to the amount of medical professionals who do not know of this disorder; and
- Whereas,** awareness about Ehlers-Danlos Syndrome in the general public and medical field can benefit thousands of citizens of West Virginia to receive care without traveling outside the state and acknowledging this disease may result in more research and studies, which can impact the daily lives of patients who suffer.

**Now, Therefore,** Be it Resolved that I, Jim Justice, Governor of the Great State of West Virginia, do hereby proclaim *May 2024* as:

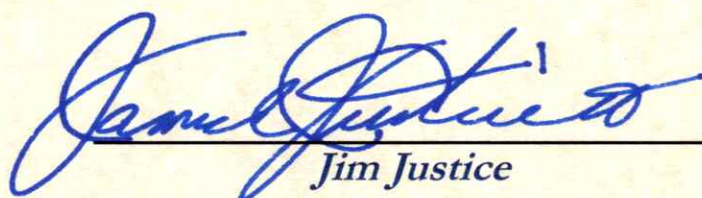
## *Ehlers-Danlos Syndrome Awareness Month*

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 Thirteenth day of November, 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