## Proclamation by Governor Jim Justice

Whereas, every year in the United States approximately 95,000 people die from alcohol related causes; and

Whereas, alcohol use disorder (AUD) affects about 15 million people in the United States; and

Whereas, about 2.3 million adolescents aged 12 to 17 in 2019 drank alcohol in the last 30 days, and about 1.2 million adolescents aged 12 to 17 binged drank within the last 30 days; and

Whereas, underage alcohol use may result in death or serious injuries, suicides, alcohol, poisonings, drownings, sexual assaults, poor athletic and academic performance; and

Whereas, adult misuse of alcohol may cause injury and death and may lead to chronic adverse health conditions; and

Whereas, in West Virginia key stakeholders such as law enforcement, educators, prevent specialists, parents, coaches, mentors, local, county and state governmental organizations are committed to addressing the serious dangers of the misuse and illegal use of alcohol; and

Whereas, the West Virginia Alcohol Beverage Control Administration (WVABCA) is deeply committed to the proper licensing of businesses and though its education and enforcement programs are working to protect the public.

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

## Alcohol Awareness Month

in the Mountain State and encourage all citizens to help to prevent the underage consumption of alcohol and the adult misuse of alcohol.

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 March, in the year of our Lord, Two Thousand Twenty-Four, and in the One Hundred Sixty-First year of the State.



Jim Justice Governor

By the Governor:

Mac Warner Secretary of State