

# Proclamation

## by Governor Jim Justice

- Whereas,** the multifaceted art form of clog dancing is a manifestation of the cultural heritage of our nation, reflecting the intermingling of European, Native American, and African cultures into an exemplification of the American spirit that should be, through documentation and archival and performance support, transmitted to succeeding generations; and
- Whereas,** clog dancing in all its forms, including flat-footing, buck dancing, jig dancing, step dancing, and power tap, has had a historic and continuing influence on the social culture of our nation. This influence comes forth from school activities, 4-H programs, performance opportunities, and competitive opportunities and has opened many doors for international travel to numerous folk festivals around the world. For centuries, clog dancing has influenced American entertainment, from the front porches of our hometown musicians to the stages of the Grand Ole Opry and Broadway. In addition, this beloved dance form has been included in numerous film projects; and
- Whereas,** rooted in diversity and inclusivity, clog dancing is a joyful, inspirational outlet that provides a source of enjoyment, creativity, and self-expression for Americans, as well as for cloggers around the world, both professional and amateur; and
- Whereas,** it is in the best interest of the people of our nation to preserve, promote, and celebrate this uniquely American Art form; and
- Whereas,** known affectionately as the “grandfather of modern clog dancing,” William “Bill” Nichols made an outstanding contribution to the art of clog dancing on both recreational and competitive platforms; and August 8, as the anniversary of the passing of Bill Nichols, is an appropriate day on which to refocus the attention of our state and the nation on American clog dancing and to encourage everyone to indulge in clog dancing’s lighthearted entertainment and exercise; and
- Whereas,** the Great State of West Virginia is proud to be home to many across our state who enjoy and find community through clogging it is only appropriate that we designate this day to honor all cloggers, past and present.

**Now, Therefore,** Be it Resolved that I, Jim Justice, Governor of the Great State of West Virginia, do hereby proclaim *August 8, 2024* as:

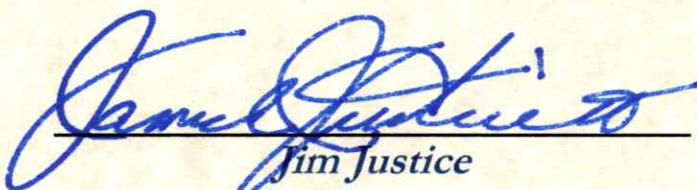
### *Day of Clogging in West Virginia*

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



  
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Jim Justice  
Governor

*By the Governor:*

  
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Mac Warner  
Secretary of State