Proclamation by Governor Jim Justice

Whereas, Alzheimer's disease is a progressive brain disorder that slowly destroys memory, thinking and language skills, and eventually, the ability to carry out the simplest tasks; and

Whereas, more than 6.2 million Americans are currently living with Alzheimer's; and

Whereas, the number of Americans with Alzheimer's is projected to surpass 13.8 million by 2060; and

Whereas, everyone is unique, experts have identified common warning signs of Alzheimer's disease, including memory loss, confusion about time and place, struggling to complete familiar tasks, trouble finding appropriate words, difficulties in judging situations, and changes in mood and personality; and

Whereas, Alzheimer's disease can be diagnosed by a doctor, they may ask questions about health, conduct cognitive tests, and carry out standard medical tests to determine whether to diagnose a person with Alzheimer's disease. If a doctor thinks a person may have Alzheimer's, they may refer the person to a specialist, such as a neurologist, for further assessment. Specialists may conduct additional tests, such as brain scans or lab tests of spinal fluid, to help make a diagnosis. These tests measure signs of the disease, such as changes in brain size or levels of certain proteins; and

Whereas, there is currently no cure for Alzheimer's, though there are several medicines approved by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) that can help manage some symptoms of the disease along with coping strategies to manage behavioral symptoms; and

Whereas, more than 11 million American caregivers provide over 15.3 billion hours of unpaid care.

Now, Therefore, Be it Resolved that I, Jim Justice, Governor of the Great State of West Virginia, do hereby proclaim *November 1, 2024* as:

Alzheimer's Awareness Day

in the Mountain State and encourage all citizens to join me in this observance by turning their lights to TEAL to show their support of the Alzheimer's Foundation of America's efforts to educate people about Alzheimer's disease and the importance of early detection.

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 Twelfth day of August, in the year of our Lord, Two Thousand Twenty-Four, and in the One Hundred Sixty-Second year of the State.

TO SENSER VILLE OF THE PARTY OF

Jim Justice Governor

By the Governor:

Mac Warner Secretary of State