

STATE OF WEST VIRGINIA

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

At Charleston

A PROCLAMATION

By the Governor

WHEREAS, Robert Gene “Bob” Ashley, was born on Independence Day, July 4, 1953, in Roane County, West Virginia, the son of the late Gene M. Ashley and Kathleen Harris Ashley; and

WHEREAS, Bob Ashley graduated from Spencer High School in 1971 and from Marshall University in 1975, receiving a business degree; and

WHEREAS, Bob Ashley had numerous jobs, working for Leonard Starcher’s floral shop, Carper’s Restaurant, Hardman’s, and Hometown Flowers and Gifts, before starting Ashley Insurance Agency, which he operated for a number of years; and

WHEREAS, Bob Ashley followed his father into elected service in the West Virginia House of Delegates in 1984, spending two legislative terms as Minority Whip; two terms as Minority Leader; one session as Vice Chairman of the House Finance Committee; and was later appointed to the West Virginia Senate, serving a total of 30 years with the West Virginia Legislature, where he represented the people of Roane, Jackson, Clay, Gilmer, Wood, and Pleasants counties; and

WHEREAS, I, Governor, Jim Justice, appointed Bob Ashley to serve as my Legislative Director in 2017, and most recently Bob Ashley served part-time as Regional Representative for my administration; and

WHEREAS, Bob Ashley was actively involved in his community and served in various capacities with the Spencer Chamber of Commerce, the Roane County Economic Development Authority, Allohak Council of Boy Scouts of America, Roane County Republican Executive Committee, and Spencer Rotary, just to name a few; He was also a member of St. John's United Methodist Church.; and

WHEREAS, Robert Gene "Bob" Ashley is survived by his wife, Judge Anita Harold Ashley; two sons, Benjamin Scott Ashley and his wife, Suzette Raines Ashley, and Samuel David Ashley and his wife, Jill Lansden Ashley; three grandchildren Alaina Yvonne Ashley, Faye Kathleen Ashley, and Harold Lewis Ashley; sister, Mary Jo Ashley; aunt, Rosemary Martin; brother-in-law and sister-in-law, Steve and Renee Harold, and several cousins; and

WHEREAS, the citizens of the State of West Virginia, friends, and associates of Robert Gene "Bob" Ashley desire to recognize his dedicated public service to the Great State of West Virginia, and to acknowledge his valuable contributions to the State.

[Remainder of This Page Intentionally Left Blank]

NOW, THEREFORE, I, JIM JUSTICE, by virtue of the authority vested in me as the Governor of the State of West Virginia, do hereby **ORDER** that, in commemoration of the distinguished life and service of West Virginia Senator Robert Gene “Bob” Ashley, the United States and West Virginia State flags displayed at the Capitol Complex in Charleston, West Virginia, and at all State facilities throughout Roane County, West Virginia, shall be lowered to half-staff from dawn to dusk on Wednesday, May 22, 2024, the day of services celebrating his life.

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 in the City of Charleston, State of West Virginia, this Twenty-First Day of May, in the Year of our Lord, Two Thousand Twenty-Four in the One Hundred Sixty-First Year of the State.


GOVERNOR


SECRETARY OF STATE