

STATE OF WEST VIRGINIA

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

At Charleston

A PROCLAMATION

By the Governor

WHEREAS, a State of Emergency was proclaimed on August 11, 2022, due to there being a number of correctional officers available to staff juvenile and adult detention and correctional facilities that was less than what is recommended to operate the State's juvenile and adult detention and correctional facilities; and

WHEREAS, at that time, the Secretary of Homeland Security, the Adjutant General of the West Virginia National Guard, and the Division of Personnel worked to identify solutions that helped with recruitment and retention efforts at our juvenile and adult detention and correctional facilities; and

WHEREAS, the Adjutant General was ordered to support the West Virginia Department of Homeland Security with West Virginia National Guard personnel sufficient to alleviate staffing shortages at adult and juvenile correctional and detention facilities; and

WHEREAS, on March 9, 2023, lawmakers in the House of Delegates voted to extend the State of Emergency to keep West Virginia National Guard personnel in the facilities to provide support services until recruitment and retention efforts resulted in adequate staffing of permanent Division of Corrections and Rehabilitation personnel; and

WHEREAS, the number of West Virginia National Guard members present at the facilities has steadily declined since these efforts began as recruitment and retention efforts within the Division of Corrections and Rehabilitation have shown success and the number of job vacancies has decreased to levels sufficient to staff State facilities without West Virginia National Guard support; and

WHEREAS, because these recruitment and retention efforts have resulted in appropriate staffing levels at State facilities, the conditions necessitating the State of Emergency are no longer present;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, JIM JUSTICE, by virtue of the authority vested in me as the Governor of the State of West Virginia do hereby **DECLARE** and **ORDER** that the State of Emergency proclaimed on August 11, 2022, is hereby terminated and of no further effect.

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-Fourth Day of May, in the year of our Lord, Two Thousand Twenty-Four, in the One Hundred Sixty-First year of the State.



James Justice
GOVERNOR

By the State

Mpc Warner
SECRETARY OF STATE