WHEREAS, according to W.Va. Code § 2-2-1 (15), authority is vested in the Governor to proclaim a day as a holiday; and

WHEREAS, the President of the United States has declared that on December 5, 2018, all executive departments and agencies of the Federal Government shall be closed for a mark of respect for George Herbert Walker Bush, the forty-first President of the United States; and

WHEREAS, in conformity with the Presidential decree and showing great respect for the sacrifices and dedication to public service demonstrated by a true American military hero and former President of the United States George Herbert Walker Bush, I believe the declaration of a holiday is appropriate.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, JIM JUSTICE, pursuant to the foregoing and by virtue of the authority vested in me as the Governor of the State of West Virginia, do hereby PROCLAIM and ORDER that the public employees of this State may be excused from their work duties on Wednesday, the fifth day of December, Two Thousand Eighteen, without charge against accrued annual leave; and do further

PROCLAIM that this ORDER shall not affect private businesses, local governments, and other entities and individuals not employed by the State of West Virginia; nor shall it affect the
work requirements of those public employees who may be called upon to safeguard the health, safety, and welfare of West Virginia's citizenry and compensated in accordance with the legislative rules established by the West Virginia Division of Personnel; however, in accordance with subsection (c), section one, article two, chapter two of the Code of West Virginia, county commissions may designate Wednesday, the fifth day of December, Two Thousand Eighteen, as a day of time off for county employees without charge against accrued annual leave, and the courts may treat the day as if it were a legal holiday.

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 fourth day of December, in the year of our Lord, Two Thousand Eighteen, and in the One Hundred Fifty-Sixth year of the State.

GOVERNOR

By the Governor

SECRETARY OF STATE