Proclamation

by Governor Jim Justice

Whereas, palliative care access remains a challenge across the Mountain State and increasing awareness of the availability of this service will align with many of the state’s goals to improve patients’ healthcare experience and care quality; and

Whereas, palliative care empowers people to live as fully as possible, surrounded and supported by family and loved ones, despite serious, though not necessarily terminal illness; and

Whereas, palliative care brings patients and family caregivers the highest quality care delivered by an interdisciplinary team of skilled professionals that includes physicians, advanced practice registered nurse or a registered nurse, social workers, counselors, spiritual providers and consulting pharmacists who make the wishes of each patient and family a priority; and

Whereas, the interdisciplinary team-based model of care process is designed to relieve suffering and improve the quality of life for patients and families through pain management and symptom control, caregiver training and assistance, and emotional and spiritual support; and

Whereas, this care, should be available at any stage of illness from birth to advanced age and offered simultaneously with disease modifying interventions, including attempts for cure and remission; and

Whereas, each year, an estimated 40 million people are in need of palliative care; and

Whereas, worldwide, only about 14% of people who need palliative care currently receive it; and

Whereas, early delivery of palliative care reduces unnecessary hospital admissions and the use of health services.

Now, Therefore, Be it Resolved that I, Jim Justice, Governor of the Great State of West Virginia, do hereby proclaim November 2020 as:

Palliative Care Awareness Month

in the Mountain State and encourage all citizens to join me in this 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 Ninth day of November, in the year of our Lord, Two Thousand Twenty, and in the One Hundred Fifty-Eighth year of the State.

Jim Justice
Governor

By the Governor:

Mac Warner
Secretary of State