

# Proclamation

## by Governor Jim Justice

- Whereas,** amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS), known by many as Lou Gehrig's disease, is a progressive fatal neurodegenerative disease in which a person's brain loses connection with the muscles, slowly taking away their ability to walk, talk, eat, and eventually breathe; and
- Whereas,** every 90 minutes someone is diagnosed with ALS and someone passes away from ALS; and
- Whereas,** on average, patients diagnosed with ALS only survive two to five years from the time of diagnosis; and
- Whereas,** people who have served in the military are more likely to develop ALS and die from the disease than those with no history of military service; and
- Whereas,** securing access to new therapies, durable medical equipment, and communication technologies is of vital importance to people living with ALS; and
- Whereas,** we celebrate the 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Ice Bucket Challenge through a renewed commitment to galvanize public awareness and support funding leading to significant investments in ALS research; and
- Whereas,** the ALS Association, as the largest philanthropic funder of ALS research globally, has committed over \$154 million to support more than 550 projects across the United States and 18 other countries; and
- Whereas,** our commitment to accelerating the pace of discovery remains unwavering, fueled by the hope that one day, ALS will be a livable disease for everyone, everywhere, until we can cure it; and
- Whereas,** *Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis Awareness Month* increases the public's awareness of people with ALS' dire circumstances, and acknowledges the terrible impact this disease has, not only on the person but on his or her family and the community, and recognizes the research being done to eradicate this disease.

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

## *Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis Awareness Month*

in the Mountain State and encourage all citizens to join me in 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 First of May, in the year of our Lord, Two Thousand Twenty-Four, and in the One Hundred Sixty-First year of the State.



  
Jim Justice  
Governor

*By the Governor:*

  
Mac Warner  
Secretary of State