## Proclamation by Governor Jim Justice

Whereas, Nurse Practitioners (NPs) play a critical role as trusted providers of health care for patients in our state; and

Whereas, NPs work to expand health care access in communities across our state, promote health equity in care and improve health outcomes for all; and

Whereas, patients depend on the more than 385,000 licensed NPs in the United States to diagnose, manage, and treat their chronic and acute health care conditions; and

Whereas, NPs provide high-quality primary, acute and specialty health care services while emphasizing health promotion, disease prevention, health education and counseling, partnering with patients to improve their health; and

Whereas, the confidence that patients have in NP-delivered health care is evidenced by the more than 1 billion visits made annually to NPs across the country; and

Whereas, more than five decades of research demonstrates the high quality of care provided by NPs; and

Whereas, better utilization of NPs through modernized state laws and improved policies creates better health through a more accessible, efficient, cost-effective and higher-quality health care system; and

Whereas, more than half the nation — including 26 states, the District of Columbia, Guam, and the Northern Mariana Islands — has adopted Full Practice Authority legislation, offering patients full and direct access to the outstanding care provided by NPs; and

Whereas, leading governmental and policy entities including the National Academy of Medicine, National Council of State Boards of Nursing, National Governors Association, and Federal Trade Commission have taken notice of the benefits of providing patients full and direct access to NP-delivered care; and

Whereas, NPs serve as the primary care provider of choice for many West Virginians and play a pivotal role in the health and welfare of our communities.

**Now, Therefore,** Be it Resolved that I, Jim Justice, Governor of the Great State of West Virginia, do hereby proclaim **November 10-16, 2024** as:

## National Nurse Practitioner Week

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 July, in the year of our Lord, Two Thousand Twenty-Four and in the One Hundred Sixty-Second year of the State.

Jim Justice Governor

By the Governor:

Mac Warner Secretary of State