

Proclamation

by Governor Patrick Morrisey

- Whereas,** the Institute of Medicine has found 100 million Americans live with chronic pain as a result of serious illness or injury; and that chronic pain causes physical and emotional suffering for those impacted by this condition; and
- Whereas,** according to the International Pain Foundation, chronic pain is one of the most commonly cited reasons Americans seek medical care; and
- Whereas,** the National Institutes of Health estimates the health and economic costs of chronic pain to be between \$560 billion and \$630 billion annually, including medical expenses, lost wages, and reduced productivity; and
- Whereas,** according to the World Health Organization, chronic pain negatively impacts an individual's quality of life and their ability to actively participate in meaningful activities such as work, socializing, and recreation, and also adversely affects the families and caregivers of those living with chronic pain; and
- Whereas,** educating patients, the public, and healthcare professionals about the complexities of chronic pain and increasing awareness of the effects of chronic pain validates those living with pain and reduces stigma for individuals seeking compassionate care and support; and
- Whereas,** *Pain Awareness Month* is dedicated to promoting better understanding of chronic pain and highlighting the importance of support systems, early intervention, and comprehensive care for those living with pain.

Now, Therefore, Be it Resolved that I, Patrick Morrisey, Governor of the Great State of West Virginia, do hereby proclaim *September 2025* as:

Pain Awareness Month

in the Mountain State and encourage all citizens to join me in this observance.

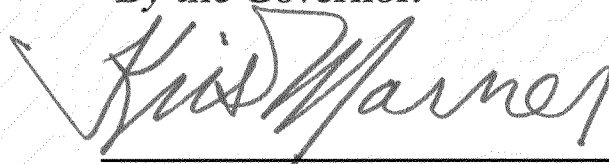
In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of West Virginia to be affixed.

Done at the Capitol, City of Charleston, State of West Virginia, this the First Day of September, in the year of our Lord, Two Thousand Twenty-Five, and in the One Hundred Sixty-Third Year of the State.



Patrick Morrisey
Governor

By the Governor:



Kris Warner
Secretary of State