

# Proclamation

## by Governor Patrick Morrisey

- Whereas,** the State Fire Marshal's Office, along with the State's fire service, is committed to ensuring the safety and security of all those living in and visiting West Virginia; and
- Whereas,** fire remains a serious public safety concern both locally and nationally, and the presence of lithium-ion batteries in many household devices introduces unique fire risks; and
- Whereas,** most of the electronics used in homes daily — including smartphones, tablets, laptops, power tools, e-bikes, e-scooters, and toys — are powered by lithium-ion batteries, which, if misused, damaged, or improperly charged, can overheat, start a fire, or explode; and
- Whereas,** the National Fire Protection Association® (NFPA®) reports an increase in battery-related fires, underscoring the need for public education on the safe use of lithium-ion batteries; and
- Whereas,** residents should follow three key calls to action: buy only listed products, charge batteries safely, and recycle them responsibly to prevent battery-related fires; and
- Whereas,** lithium-ion batteries store a large amount of energy in a small space, and improper use, such as overcharging, using off-brand chargers without safety certification, or exposing batteries to damage, can result in fire or explosion; and
- Whereas,** the proper disposal and recycling of lithium-ion batteries help prevent environmental hazards and reduce fire risks in the home and community; and
- Whereas,** West Virginia first responders are dedicated to reducing the occurrence of fires through prevention, safety education, and community outreach; and
- Whereas,** the 2025 Fire Prevention Week™ theme, "Charge into Fire Safety™: Lithium-Ion Batteries in Your Home," serves to remind us of the importance of using, charging, and recycling lithium-ion batteries safely to reduce the risk of fires in homes and communities.

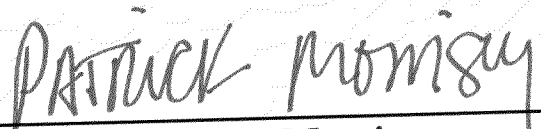
**Now, Therefore,** Be it Resolved that I, Patrick Morrisey, Governor of the Great State of West Virginia, do hereby proclaim *October 5-11, 2025* as:

### *Fire Prevention Week*

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

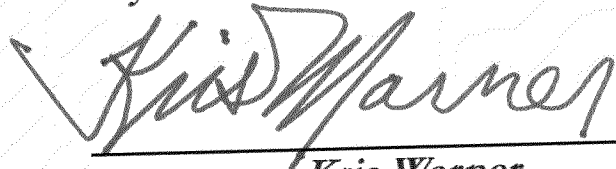
**In Witness Whereof,** I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of West Virginia to be affixed.

**Done** at the Capitol, City of Charleston, State of West Virginia, this the Fifth day of October, 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