

# Proclamation

## by Governor Patrick Morrisey

- Whereas,** hunting in West Virginia is enshrined in the state constitution, offering opportunities to connect with nature while providing food security and nutrition to hunters, their families, and those less fortunate through community-based Hunters for the Hungry (HFH) programs; and
- Whereas,** Feeding America reports that 277,720 West Virginians—including one in five children—struggle with food insecurity, an issue exacerbated by rising food costs; and
- Whereas,** the West Virginia Hunters Helping the Hungry program, launched in 1992 and sponsored by the West Virginia Division of Natural Resources (DNR) Wildlife Resources Section and supported by the West Virginia Deer Association, is hunters' common-sense answer to fighting hunger, tapping into hunting's role as an integral cultural component of communities statewide; and
- Whereas,** recent National Rifle Association Hunters' Leadership Forum research shows that while American hunters share 119 million pounds of harvested game meat with others outside their households each year, many meat processors involved in HFH programs in recent years did not receive enough donated meat to fulfill their missions; and
- Whereas,** the West Virginia DNR is funded largely by hunters through the "user pays, public benefits" system known as the North American Model of Wildlife Conservation, resulting in \$8,815,296 in funding going back to the state in 2025 for its critical wildlife and habitat conservation programs; and
- Whereas,** promoting the West Virginia tradition of sharing our wild game harvests takes on even greater significance as we strive to protect hunting's future and increase its cultural acceptance while promoting it as a food source, a right and a vital wildlife management tool; and
- Whereas,** hunger is a problem we can help to solve together through programs such as Hunters Helping the Hungry, so that one day hunger no longer exists in our state; and
- Whereas,** the NRA and its millions of members have declared November *National Wild Game Meat Donation Month* across America, encouraging all hunters to donate surplus wild game meat and financially support local HFH programs as we prepare to celebrate Thanksgiving and the season of giving.

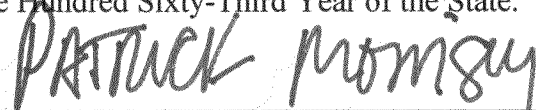
**Now, Therefore,** Be it Resolved that I, Patrick Morrisey, Governor of the Great State of West Virginia, do hereby proclaim *November 2025* as:

### *Wild Game Meat Donation 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 Day of November, 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