

STATE OF WEST VIRGINIA
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

At Charleston

A PROCLAMATION

By the Governor

WHEREAS, January 1, New Year's Day, is a legal holiday under West Virginia Code Section 2-2-1(a)(1); and

WHEREAS, when New Year's Day falls on "Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, or Friday, the last half of the scheduled workday immediately preceding the holiday," *i.e.*, New Year's Eve, also counts as a legal holiday when state employees automatically get a half-day off under West Virginia Code of State Rules Section 143-1-14.1.b.; and

WHEREAS, New Year's Day of 2026 occurs on a Thursday, and in recognition of the hard work accomplished by the public employees of this State throughout the year 2025, and in acknowledgement of the holiday season, it is fitting and proper that the public employees of this State be permitted to cease business for the workday of January 2, 2026, to spend an extended and enjoyable holiday with their loved ones.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, PATRICK MORRISEY, pursuant to the foregoing and by virtue of the authority vested in me as the Governor of the State of West Virginia, do hereby **PROCLAIM** and **ORDER** that the public employees of this State may be excused from their work duties on Friday, January 2, 2026, without charge against accrued annual leave; and do further

PROCLAIM that this **ORDER** shall not affect private businesses, local governments, and other entities and individuals not employed by the State of West Virginia; nor shall it affect the

work requirements of those public employees who may be called upon to safeguard the health, safety, and welfare of West Virginia's citizenry and who will be compensated in accordance with the legislative rules established by the West Virginia Division of Personnel; however, in accordance with West Virginia Code Section 2-2-1(c), county commissions may designate Friday, January 2, 2026, as time off for county employees without charge against accrued annual leave, and the courts may treat the day as if it were legal holiday.

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 in the City of Charleston, State of West Virginia, this Twenty-Ninth Day of December, in the Year of our Lord, Two Thousand Twenty-Five, and in the One Hundred Sixty-Third Year of the State.



By the Governor

Patrick Morissey

GOVERNOR

Kris Warner

SECRETARY OF STATE