

# Proclamation

## by Governor Patrick Morrisey

- Whereas,** due to the increasing use of and reliance on modern technologies to communicate, access information, and interact both locally and globally, there has been a corresponding rise in cybersecurity incidents aimed at stealing citizens' personal data; therefore, all efforts should be made to ensure the secure use of such technologies; and
- Whereas,** the proliferation of information in hardcopy and electronic formats, together with the ease and necessity of information access in our interconnected, digital world, has created an imperative for government, industry, and society to identify data privacy risks and proactively protect personal data and privacy; and
- Whereas,** it is incumbent on private industry, non-profit organizations, and government to: (1) continually examine the appropriate collection, use, retention, disclosure and disposal of personally identifiable information, whether in hardcopy or electronic format; (2) abide by appropriate and responsible information management policies and practices; and (3) support privacy education; and
- Whereas,** Executive Order No. 3-17 authorized the West Virginia Board of Risk and Insurance Management and State Privacy Office to work to protect the privacy of the personally identifiable information collected and maintained by Executive Branch agencies; and
- Whereas,** in observance of *Data Privacy Week*, government representatives, educators and schools, parents, businesses, citizens, and other interested groups are encouraged to participate in appropriate events, activities, and initiatives that promote awareness of data privacy; support fair information and privacy practices; and advance responsible information sharing by citizens.

**Now, Therefore,** Be it Resolved that I, Patrick Morrisey, Governor of the Great State of West Virginia, do hereby proclaim *January 26-30, 2026*, as:

### *Data Privacy Week*

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 Twenty-Sixth day of January, in the year of our Lord, Two Thousand Twenty-Six, and in the One Hundred Sixty-Third year of the State.



*Patrick Morrisey*  
Governor

*By the Governor:*



*Kris Warner*  
Secretary of State