

Proclamation

by Governor Patrick Morrisey

Whereas, every year in the United States, approximately 178,000 people die from alcohol-related causes; and

Whereas, alcohol use disorder affected about 28 million people in the United States in 2024; and

Whereas, about 2.9 million adolescents aged 12 to 20 binge drank within the last 30 days; and

Whereas, nearly 4.2 million people visited the emergency room in 2024 due to alcohol; and

Whereas, underage alcohol use may result in death or serious injuries, suicides, poisonings, drownings, sexual assaults, poor athletic and academic performance; and

Whereas, adult misuse of alcohol may cause injury and death and may lead to chronic adverse health conditions; and

Whereas, in West Virginia, key stakeholders such as law enforcement, educators, prevention specialists, parents, coaches, mentors, local, county, and state governmental organizations are committed to addressing the serious dangers of the misuse and illegal use of alcohol; and

Whereas, the West Virginia Alcohol Beverage Control Administration (WVABCA) is deeply committed to the proper licensing of businesses, and through its education and enforcement programs is working to protect the public.

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

Alcohol Awareness Month

in the Mountain State, and encourage all citizens to help to prevent the underage consumption of alcohol and the adult misuse of alcohol.

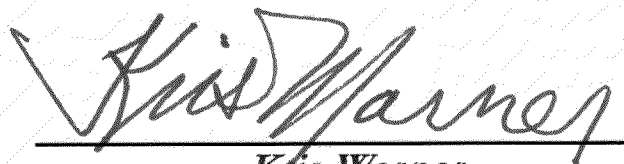
In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of West Virginia to be affixed.

Done at the Capitol, City of Charleston, State of West Virginia, this the First day of April, 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