

# Proclamation

*by Governor Patrick Morrisey*

- Whereas,** Parkinson's disease is a chronic, progressive neurological disease and is the 13th leading cause of death in the United States according to the Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC); and
- Whereas,** research suggests the cause of Parkinson's disease is a combination of genetic and environmental factors, but the exact cause in most individuals is still unknown; and
- Whereas,** the symptoms of Parkinson's disease vary from person to person and can include tremors, slowness of movement and rigidity, gait and balance difficulty, speech and swallowing disturbances, cognitive impairment and dementia, mood disorders, and a variety of other nonmotor symptoms; and
- Whereas,** Parkinson's is the fastest-growing neurological condition in the United States, with over 1.1 to 1.2 million Americans estimated to be living with the disease; and
- Whereas,** the State of West Virginia has the third-highest rate of Parkinson's disease in the nation; and
- Whereas,** volunteers, researchers, caregivers, and medical professionals are working to improve the quality of life of people living with Parkinson's disease and their families; and
- Whereas,** increased research, education, and community support services are needed to find more effective treatments and to provide access to quality care to those living with the disease today.

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

## *Parkinson's Awareness 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 Seventh Day of May, 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