

Proclamation

by Governor Patrick Morrisey

- Whereas,** the bald eagle was designated as the United States' national emblem on June 20, 1782, by our country's Founding Fathers at the Second Continental Congress; and
- Whereas,** the bald eagle is unique to North America and represents such American values and attributes as freedom, courage, strength, spirit, justice, quality, and excellence; and
- Whereas,** the bald eagle is the central image used in the Great Seal of the United States and in the logos of many branches of the United States Government, including the President, Congress, the Department of War, the Department of Treasury, the Department of Justice, the State Department, the Department of Commerce, and the United States Postal Service; and
- Whereas,** the bald eagle's image, meaning, and symbolism have played a significant role in the beliefs, traditions, religions, lifestyles, and heritage of Americans from all walks of life, including United States military service men and women and members of various civic, fraternal, service, athletic, and political organizations; and
- Whereas,** the bald eagle was once endangered with possible extinction but is making a gradual and encouraging comeback to America's skies; and
- Whereas,** the bald eagle was federally classified as an "endangered species" in the lower 48 states under the Endangered Species Act in 1973 and was upgraded to a less imperiled "threatened" status under that Act in 1995; and
- Whereas,** the recovery of the United States of America's bald eagle population was largely accomplished due to the vigilant efforts of numerous caring agencies, businesses, private organizations and individual citizens.

Now, Therefore, Be it Resolved that I, Patrick Morrisey, Governor of the Great State of West Virginia, do hereby proclaim *June 20, 2026*, as:

American Eagle Day

in the Mountain State and urge all citizens to join me in support of the majestic bald eagle's continuing recovery and the protection of its precious natural habitat, and in commemorating the living and symbolic presence of our national bird.

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 Twentieth day of June, in the year of our Lord, Two Thousand Twenty-Six, and in the One Hundred Sixty-Fourth Year of the State.



Patrick Morrisey
Governor

By the Governor:



Kris Warner
Secretary of State