

Proclamation

by Governor Patrick Morrisey

- Whereas,** September has been nationally recognized as Sepsis Awareness Month by Sepsis Alliance to bring awareness to sepsis, the body's life-threatening response to infection, which can lead to tissue damage, organ failure, and death; and
- Whereas,** sepsis affects 1.7 million Americans and takes 350,000 adult lives every year in the United States, and more than 75,000 children in the United States develop severe sepsis and 6,800 of these children die; and
- Whereas,** sepsis is the number one driver of hospitalization cost in the U.S., with costs for acute sepsis hospitalization and skilled nursing estimated to be \$62 billion annually; and
- Whereas,** on average, sepsis survivors have a shortened life expectancy, are more likely to suffer from an impaired quality of life, and often experience after-effects such as amputations and post-sepsis syndrome; and
- Whereas,** communities that have historically lacked access to high-quality healthcare experience a disproportionate burden of sepsis-related suffering; and
- Whereas,** the growing problem of antimicrobial resistance is steadily increasing the frequency of sepsis cases; and
- Whereas,** despite the severe danger and widespread occurrence of this illness, a survey conducted by Sepsis Alliance found that less than 15% of U.S. adults can identify the symptoms of sepsis; and
- Whereas,** the signs of sepsis can be remembered with the mnemonic "TIME," which stands for "Temperature," "Infection," "Mental decline," and "Extremely ill"; and
- Whereas,** awareness of the signs and symptoms of sepsis, along with its rapid diagnosis and treatment, can save lives and improve outcomes for sepsis survivors.

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

Sepsis 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 First Day of September, 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