

Proclamation

by Governor Patrick Morrisey

Whereas, this year in West Virginia, 13,590 people will hear the words "you have cancer," for the first time and will begin their battle against the disease; and

Whereas, cancer impacts patients and caregivers and is a health and economic burden for families and the State of West Virginia; and

Whereas, the top three cancer sites for West Virginia are lung, breast, and prostate cancer; and

Whereas, a substantial portion of cancer can be prevented, including all cancers caused by tobacco use; and

Whereas, smoking is responsible for 4,300 deaths in West Virginia each year, including 37.8% of cancer deaths; and

Whereas, it is vital that evidence-based programs and resources are in place to reduce tobacco usage and taxpayer-funded health care costs.

Now, Therefore, Be it Resolved that I, Patrick Morrisey, Governor of the Great State of West Virginia, do hereby proclaim *September 27 – October 4, 2026*, as:

Lights of Hope 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-Second 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