

Proclamation

by Governor Jim Justice

Whereas, hunting, firearms and the shooting sports are part of the history, tradition, and culture of West Virginia; and

Whereas, increasing access to education and shooting sports provides opportunity to safely learn to shoot and to responsibly increase public participation in shooting sports and hunting; and

Whereas, the West Virginia Division of Natural Resources is not only responsible for the sound management and conservation of wildlife but also teaches principles of ethical hunting, firearms safety, and responsible firearm use; and

Whereas, hundreds of thousands of West Virginia residents, young and old, participate in hunting and shooting sports every year; and

Whereas, sportsmen and hunters teach others to understand the responsibilities of owning and using a firearm, while also working to ensure that our natural resources are safeguarded; and

Whereas, the firearm and ammunition industry contributed as much as \$194.32 million to West Virginia's economy in 2020 and supported 1,609 jobs; and

Whereas, those engaged in the shooting sports and hunting contributed close to \$6.87 million in funding for wildlife and conservation efforts through the Pittman-Robertson excise tax levied on firearms and ammunition in 2020; and

Whereas, in August 2021, organizations, businesses and others will come together to recognize National Shooting Sports Month and to spotlight shooting sports activities enjoyed by millions of Americans and to continue to promote a culture of safety and responsibility.

Now, Therefore, Be it Resolved that I, Jim Justice, Governor of the Great State of West Virginia, do hereby proclaim *August 2021* as:

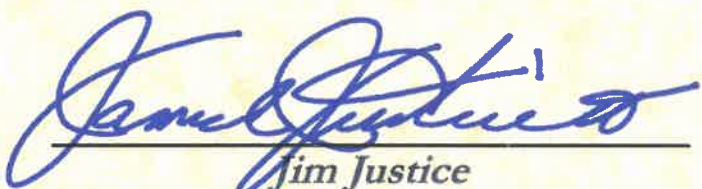
National Shooting Sports Month

in the Mountain State and encourage all citizens to join me in this 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-third day of June, in the year of our Lord, Two Thousand Twenty-One, and in the One Hundred Fifty-Ninth year of the State.





Jim Justice
Governor

By the Governor:



Mac Warner
Secretary of State