## Proclamation by Governor Jim Justice

Whereas,
1,587 Americans are still missing from the Vietnam War, as well as 7,578 unaccounted-for from the Korean War, 126 from the Cold War and 72,583 from WWII, though thousands from WWII are assessed as unrecoverable deep-sea losses; and

Whereas, the families and friends of unaccounted-for Vietnam War Veterans, as well as countless fellow Veterans and other Americans, still await recovery and identification of their remains or, if determined unrecoverable, certainty regarding their fates; and

Whereas, the bravery, commitment, and selflessness displayed by American soldiers, prisoners of war, those missing in action, and their families, who have fought to secure and preserve our Nation's freedom and security and uphold our democratic values, serve as admirable examples of patriotism and loyalty for all Americans; and

Whereas, it is important for all Americans to recognize and be thankful for the sacrifices made by American soldiers and our allies in the past, present, and future; and

Whereas, this day of recognition is directed for remembrance, education, and honor upon all American prisoners of war and all the men and women missing in action; and

Whereas, we demonstrate our deep gratitude and admiration for our brave patriots not in words alone, but in our actions to bring them home; and

whereas, on *POW/MIA* day, the stark black and white flag honoring America's prisoners of war and those missing in action will be flown at locations across the country as a powerful reminder that our Nation will never cease in our task to recover, remember, and honor the courageous men and women who have served and sacrificed so much for each of us.

Now, Therefore, Be it Resolved that I, Jim Justice, Governor of the Great State of West Virginia, do hereby proclaim September 18, 2020 as:

## POW/MIA Day

in the Mountain State and dedicate this time to all former American Prisoners of War, those still missing in action, and their families, and call on all citizens to join me in honoring those who have been held captive in war, and especially those seventeen West Virginians still missing and unaccounted for in Southeast Asia.

John Scott Albright II, Huntington Albert Harold Altizer, Squire Joseph Clair Austin, Moundsville Jerry Edward Auxier, Dixie Keith Royal Wilson Curry, Salem James Edward Duncan, Point Pleasant Robert W. Hunt, Beckley Carroll B. Lilly, Morgantown Danny G. Marshall, Waverly Michael Scott Norton, Eskdale Marshall I. Pauley, Milton Ronald Keith Pennington, Hambleton Joe Harold Pringle, Horner Hughie Franklin Snider, New Cumberland Dean Calvin Spencer III, Morgantown James Lawrence Taylor, Nitro David Wallace Wickham III, Wheeling

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 Eleventh day of July, in the year of our Lord, Two Thousand Twenty, and in the One Hundred Fifty-Eighth year of the State.

TO STATE

Com Atuntue to