Proclamation by Governor Earl Ray Tomblin

Whereas, the State of West Virginia recognizes the challenges that citizens and families across the State continue to face due to the economic downturn and rising energy costs; and

Whereas, low-income families in West Virginia spend a disproportionately high percentage of their annual income on home energy bills and often find themselves in crisis; and

Whereas, the United States Department of Energy developed the Weatherization Assistance Program in 1979 as the Nation's effective, permanent solution for reducing residential energy burdens on low-income Americans; and

Whereas, the West Virginia Weatherization Assistance Program, administered by the West Virginia Office of Economic Opportunity keeps jobs and dollars in local communities by operating in cooperation with community action agencies through a network of twelve well-trained program providers serving every county in the state; and

Whereas, the West Virginia Weatherization Assistance Program has reduced energy costs and improved energy affordability for the elderly and disabled as well as families with children and households with high energy burdens; simultaneously, the program helps to provide a safer and healthier home with improved indoor air quality which can in turn eliminate or reduce other health threats such as asthma; and

Whereas, the West Virginia Weatherization Assistance Program makes a meaningful difference in the lives of many citizens by utilizing advanced technology to determine the energy conservation needs of a home; the program utilizes comprehensive energy audits, air-sealing, insulation, and heating combustion analysis as well as repair and replacement to make energy efficiency improvements in low-and-moderate income homes; and

Whereas, the West Virginia Weatherization Assistance Program not only assists families working toward self-sufficiency, but also contributes more broadly to the improvements and economic progress of communities; likewise, the program adds to the Nation's energy security by investing in long-term energy efficiency and energy independence while protecting the environment by reducing carbon emissions.

Now, Therefore, Be it Resolved that I, Earl Ray Tomblin, Governor of the Great State of West Virginia, do hereby proclaim *October 30, 2014*, as:

Weatherization Day

in the Mountain State and applaud State and local weatherization professionals as they provide a hand-up and a long-term investment in residential energy efficiency to low-income households and senior citizens struggling to afford heating expenses.

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 Second day of October, in the year of our Lord, Two Thousand Fourteen, and in the One Hundred Fifty-Second year of the State.

Ol Koy Jomblin

Earl Ray Tomblin

Governor

By the Governor:

Natalie E. Tennant
Secretary of State