

Proclamation

by Governor Joe Manchin III

- 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 1976 as the nation's effective, permanent solution for reducing residential energy burdens on low income Americans, protecting them against fuel price volatility; and,
- Whereas,** the West Virginia Weatherization Assistance Program, administered by the Governor's Office of Economic Opportunity in cooperation with community action agencies serving the entire state, has reduced energy costs for the elderly, disabled, families with children and households with high energy burdens; and,
- Whereas,** West Virginia, in 2009, received \$37 million in DOE ARRA Stimulus funds for two years for the Weatherization Assistance Program to increase the production of weatherizing low-and-moderate income households, and thus more than doubling full-time weatherization jobs in West Virginia from 100 to 250 trained workers, and in September 2010 the Department of Energy recognized West Virginia as one of 12 states in the country to achieve first-year production goals; and,
- Whereas,** the West Virginia Weatherization Assistance Program makes a meaningful difference in the lives of many citizens by utilizing state-of-the-art energy audits, air-sealing, insulation and heating combustion analysis and repair/replacement to make energy efficiency improvements in low-and-moderate income homes; and,
- Whereas,** the program not only assists families working toward self-sufficiency, but also contributes more broadly to the improvements and economic progress of communities and adds to the nation's energy security by investing in long term energy efficiency;

Now, Therefore, Be it Resolved that I, Joe Manchin III, Governor of the Great State of West Virginia, do hereby proclaim **October 30, 2010**, 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 individuals, senior citizens and working poor families 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 Eighth day of October, in the year of our Lord, Two Thousand Ten, and in the One Hundred Forty-eighth year of the State.




Joe Manchin III
Governor

By the Governor:


Natalie E. Tennant
Secretary of State