

# Proclamation

## by Governor Earl Ray Tomblin

- Whereas,** October 9-15, 2016, marks *Plasma Awareness Week* with observances throughout the United States designed to raise awareness of the importance of plasma donation and its impact on patients with rare diseases, recognize the contributions of plasma donors to saving and improving lives, and to increase understanding about life-saving plasma protein therapies and the conditions they treat; and
- Whereas,** plasma-derived and recombinant therapies, collectively known as plasma protein therapies, are unique, biologic products for which no substitutes exist, used to save and improve lives of individuals throughout West Virginia and the United States; and
- Whereas,** plasma protein therapies are used to treat many conditions including hemophilia and other bleeding disorders, primary immune deficiencies, alpha-1 antitrypsin deficiency, hereditary angioedema, chronic inflammatory demyelinating polyneuropathy, idiopathic thrombocytopenic purpura, and Rh negative pregnancies; and
- Whereas,** these therapies substantially increase quality of life, extend life expectancy, and improve patient outcomes for an estimated 700 individuals in the State of West Virginia; and
- Whereas,** each year approximately 2,900 pregnant women in West Virginia receive a plasma protein therapy to protect mother and baby from complications due to incompatible blood types; and
- Whereas,** there is one plasma donation center in West Virginia certified under the International Quality Plasma Program where healthy and committed donors provide plasma that is used to manufacture high-impact, life-saving therapies.

**Now, Therefore,** Be it Resolved that I, Earl Ray Tomblin, Governor of the Great State of West Virginia, do hereby proclaim *October 9 – 15, 2016* as:

### *Plasma Awareness Week*

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-Second day of September the year of our Lord, Two Thousand Sixteen, and in the One Hundred Fifty-Fourth year of the State.



*Earl Ray Tomblin*

Earl Ray Tomblin  
Governor

By the Governor:

*Natalie E. Tennant*

Natalie E. Tennant  
Secretary of State