WHEREAS, the National Weather Service and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration predict a major hurricane event, Hurricane Florence, and that its resulting tropical storm may be imminent in Barbour, Berkeley, Boone, Braxton, Brooke, Cabell, Calhoun, Clay, Doddridge, Fayette, Gilmer, Grant, Greenbrier, Hampshire, Hancock, Hardy, Harrison, Jackson, Jefferson, Kanawha, Lewis, Lincoln, Logan, Marion, Marshall, Mason, McDowell, Mercer, Mineral, Mingo, Monongalia, Monroe, Morgan, Nicholas, Ohio, Pendleton, Pleasants, Pocahontas, Preston, Putnam, Raleigh, Randolph, Ritchie, Roane, Summers, Taylor, Tucker, Tyler, Upshur, Wayne, Webster, Wetzel, Wirt, Wood, and Wyoming Counties of West Virginia, to commence on the eleventh day of September, Two Thousand Eighteen; and

WHEREAS, the Hurricane Florence and resulting storms is expected to produce substantial rainfall, as well as extraordinary winds; and

WHEREAS, the forecasted rainfall has the potential to cause, among other things, flooding in rivers, streams, and creeks; dangerous driving conditions; power outages and downed electrical lines; and the toppling of trees.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, JIM JUSTICE, by virtue of the authority vested in me as Governor of the State of West Virginia, and in view of the foregoing, do hereby FIND AND DECLARE that Hurricane Florence and its resulting storms, producing a large-scale threat of major proportions may be imminent, necessitating a State of Preparedness in Barbour, Berkeley, Boone, Braxton, Brooke,
Cabell, Calhoun, Clay, Doddridge, Fayette, Gilmer, Grant, Greenbrier, Hampshire, Hancock, Hardy, Harrison, Jackson, Jefferson, Kanawha, Lewis, Lincoln, Logan, Marion, Marshall, Mason, McDowell, Mercer, Mineral, Mingo, Monongalia, Monroe, Morgan, Nicholas, Ohio, Pendleton, Pleasants, Pocahontas, Preston, Putnam, Raleigh, Randolph, Ritchie, Roane, Summers, Taylor, Tucker, Tyler, Upshur, Wayne, Webster, Wetzel, Wirt, Wood, and Wyoming Counties of West Virginia. I therefore INVOKE the emergency powers set forth in section six, article five, chapter fifteen of the Code of West Virginia, ACTIVATE the Emergency Operations Center and Emergency Operations Plan, and ORDER appropriate personnel and resources to mobilize and prepare for the imminent emergency. Further, I hereby DIRECT the inhabitants of the aforementioned counties to prepare for the imminent emergency by, among other things, ensuring they have sufficient food and water for at least forty-eight hours, together with blankets, flashlights, and contingency plans in case of flooding or electrical outages. Finally, I hereby ORDER that it is unlawful for any person, business, or other entity to sell any food items, essential consumer items, and emergency supplies in a manner that violates the provisions of section three, article six J, chapter forty-six A of the Code of West Virginia.

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, in the City of Charleston, State of West Virginia, this the eleventh day of September, in the year of our Lord, Two Thousand Eighteen, in the One Hundred Fifty-Sixth year of the State.

By the State

Mac Warner

SECRETARY OF STATE