

# Proclamation

## by Governor Joe Manchin III

- Whereas,** dating violence is a reality for many young people, and an issue that many are unaware of; and,
- Whereas,** one in three young people are affected by physical, sexual or verbal dating abuse, with one in five in a serious relationship reporting having been slapped, pushed, hit, threatened or coerced by a partner, and breakups can be a time of even greater risk even when a relationship was never physically abusive; and,
- Whereas,** young people can choose better relationships when they understand that healthy relationships are based on respect and learn to identify early warning signs of an abusive relationship; and,
- Whereas,** eliminating dating violence must be achieved through cooperation of individuals, organizations and communities; and,
- Whereas,** *Dating Violence Awareness Month* provides an excellent opportunity for citizens to learn more about preventing dating violence and to show support for the numerous organizations and individuals who provide critical advocacy, services and assistance to victims;

**Now, Therefore,** Be it Resolved that I, Joe Manchin III, Governor of the Great State of West Virginia, do hereby proclaim *February 2010* as:

## *Dating Violence Awareness Month*

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 Ninth day of February, in the year of our Lord, Two Thousand Ten, and in the One Hundred Forty-seventh year of the State.



Joe Manchin III  
Governor

*By the Governor:*

Natalie E. Tennant  
Secretary of State