

## National Public Health Week Proclamation

**Whereas** the week of April 1–7, 2019, is National Public Health Week, and the theme is “**Creating the Healthiest Nation: For science. For action. For health.**”

**Whereas** since 1995, the American Public Health Association, through its sponsorship of National Public Health Week, has educated the public, policymakers and public health professionals about issues important to improving the public’s health;

**Whereas** there is a significant difference in the health status, such as that relating to obesity, poor mental health, and infectious disease, of people living in the healthiest States compared to people living in the least healthy states;

**Whereas** changing our health means ensuring condition where everyone has the opportunity to be healthy, with everyone having a role to play by:

- Helping to build a nation of safe healthy communities.
- Helping all young people graduate from high school.
- Helping to increase economic mobility.
- Helping to achieve social justice and health equity.
- Helping to give everyone a choice of safe, healthy food.
- Helping to prepare for the effects of climate change.
- Helping to make the healthy choice the easy choice.
- Helping to provide quality health care for everyone.
- Helping to strengthen public health infrastructure and capacity.

**Whereas** opioid-involved deaths have more than quadrupled since 1999, requiring a comprehensive strategy across a range of sectors, including robust efforts to prevent substance abuse misuse disorders;

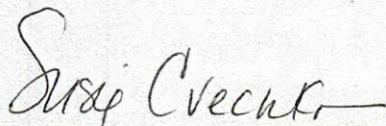
**Whereas** the percentage of adults smoking cigarettes in the United States, the leading cause of preventable disease and death in the United States and accounting for more than 480,000 deaths each year, decreased from 20.0 percent in 2005 to 15.1 percent in 2015;

**Whereas** the value of a strong public health system is the air we breathe, the water we drink, the food we eat, and the places where we all live, learn, work, and play;

**Whereas** studies show that small strategic investments in prevention can result in significant savings in health care costs;

**NOW, THEREFORE**, the Barbour County Commission by virtue of the authority vested in us by the laws of Barbour County, West Virginia do hereby proclaim the week of April 1-7, 2019, as **National Public Health Week 2019** in Barbour County, West Virginia and call upon the people of Barbour County to observe this week by helping our families, friends, neighbors, co-workers and leaders better understand the value of public health and supporting great opportunities to adopt preventive lifestyle habits in light of this year’s theme, “**Creating the Healthiest Nation: For science. For action. For health.**”

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this 1st day of April 2019, two thousand nineteen.



President, Barbour County Commission