



STATE OF TENNESSEE

# PROCLAMATION

BY THE GOVERNOR

**WHEREAS**, one in every 2,200 live births are diagnosed with a congenital diaphragmatic hernia (CDH); and

**WHEREAS**, proactive diagnosis and appropriate perinatal management of babies with congenital diaphragmatic hernias minimizes the incidence of emergency situations, dramatically improving survival rates; and

**WHEREAS**, although CDH is as common as spina bifida and cystic fibrosis, there is a need for increased public awareness of congenital diaphragmatic hernias; and

**WHEREAS**, 1,600 babies are born with CDH every year in the United States each year; and

**WHEREAS**, there are many people living in Tennessee who have been diagnosed with and have survived their CDH; many other families have endured the pain and grief associated with the loss of loved ones with CDH; and

**WHEREAS**, those with CDH often endure multiple surgeries and possible medical complications beyond their diagnosis that include heart defects, pulmonary complications, gastric and intestinal problems, developmental delays, and may require respiratory and medicinal support for years; and

**WHEREAS**, raising awareness of this congenital defect will help bring about acceptance and support for those suffering with it and will help advocate for urgently needed medical research and advances;

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, Bill Lee, Governor of the State of Tennessee, do hereby proclaim the month of April 2019 as

## *Congenital Diaphragmatic Hernia Awareness Month*

in Tennessee and encourage all citizens to join me in this worthy observance.



**IN WITNESS WHEREOF**, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the official seal of the State of Tennessee to be affixed at Nashville on this twenty-second day of January, 2019.

*Bill Lee*

Governor

*Joe Hargitt*

Secretary of State