



STATE OF TENNESSEE  
**PROCLAMATION**

BY THE GOVERNOR

**WHEREAS**, mediation in Tennessee continues to grow and assist citizens and the courts in alternative dispute resolution; and

**WHEREAS**, as a result of Rule 31's promulgation, there are over 1,200 Rule 31 mediators in Tennessee who have reported serving as conflict resolution professionals in thousands of mediations for several years; and

**WHEREAS**, the Tennessee General Assembly and the Administrative Office of the Courts partially support nine state-funded Victim Offender Reconciliation Program (VORP) centers; and

**WHEREAS**, the State of Tennessee wishes to acknowledge the contribution of mediation for the benefit of the citizens and encourage its further growth; and

**WHEREAS**, on April 5, 2019 mediators are gathering for advanced training at the annual meeting of the Tennessee Association of Professional Mediators (TAPM) and presentation of the Grayfred Gray Public Service in Mediation Award to an outstanding mediator in our state;

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

*Mediation 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 twentieth day of February, 2019.



*Bill Lee*

Governor

*Joe Bergott*

Secretary of State