



STATE OF TENNESSEE

PROCLAMATION

BY THE GOVERNOR

WHEREAS, the history of the State of Tennessee has been strongly influenced by our Native American Indian tribes; and

WHEREAS, the contributions of American Indians have enhanced the freedom, prosperity, and greatness of our state and nation; and

WHEREAS, their customs and traditions are respected and celebrated as part of a rich legacy throughout the United States; and

WHEREAS, Native American Awareness Week began in 1976 and recognition was expanded by Congress and approved by President George H.W. Bush in August 1990; designating the month of November as National American Indian Heritage Month; and

WHEREAS, an Act by the Tennessee General Assembly, TCA § 15-2-106, specifies that the governor is to proclaim the fourth Monday in September of each year as "American Indian Day" in Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, in honor of National American Indian Heritage Month, community celebrations as well as numerous cultural, artistic, educational and historical activities have been planned; and

WHEREAS, these observances should be honored by all people of Tennessee with suitable ceremony and fellowship;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Bill Lee, Governor of the State of Tennessee, do hereby proclaim September 23, 2019 as "*American Indian Day*" and the month of October 2019 as

Native American Heritage 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-fifth day of February, 2019.

Handwritten signature of Bill Lee in blue ink.

Governor

Handwritten signature of the Secretary of State in blue ink.

Secretary of State

