



STATE OF TENNESSEE
PROCLAMATION
BY THE GOVERNOR

WHEREAS, giving babies the recommended immunizations by age two is the best way to protect them from 14 serious childhood diseases; and

WHEREAS, currently, the United States has the safest vaccine supply in its history; and

WHEREAS, vaccine-preventable diseases still circulate in the United States and around the world, so continued vaccination is necessary to protect everyone from potential outbreaks. Even when diseases are rare, they can be brought into Tennessee, putting unvaccinated children at risk; and

WHEREAS, because most Tennessee parents vaccinate their children, Tennessee ranks second in the nation for early childhood immunization rates; and

WHEREAS, outbreaks of diseases like whooping cough and measles can and do return when people are unvaccinated; and

WHEREAS, it is important to vaccinate children on time according to the childhood immunization schedule to provide the best protection early in life when babies are vulnerable and before they are likely to be exposed to diseases; and

WHEREAS, since 1994, National Infant Immunization Week has encouraged parents, caregivers and health care professionals to participate in educational, recognition and media events to increase the awareness of the importance of immunizing children before their second birthday; and

WHEREAS, the week of April 27-May 4, 2019, has been declared National Infant Immunization Week to help ensure children are protected against 14 vaccine-preventable diseases by the age of two;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Bill Lee, Governor of Tennessee, do hereby proclaim the week of April 27 through May 4, 2019 as

Infant Immunization Week

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 eleventh day of April, 2019.

Bill Lee

Governor

Joe Bergatt

Secretary of State