



STATE OF TENNESSEE
PROCLAMATION
BY THE GOVERNOR

WHEREAS, Tennessee is home to a growing grape and wine industry, which is an important sector of agribusiness; and

WHEREAS, the 2017 Censuses of Agriculture shows that Tennessee has 67 wineries and grape acreage of 959 acres; and

WHEREAS, the Tennessee grape and wine industry directly provides employment for more than 400 people, including self-employed owner-operators, with recent analysis showing 12.6% growth since 2015; and

WHEREAS, the annual direct economic impact of Tennessee-produced wine is estimated at \$736 million; and

WHEREAS, vineyards and wineries play an important role in Tennessee's tourism industry, with wineries and vineyards significantly enhancing tourism in the State by providing unique travel destinations, green space, and aesthetic appeal; and

WHEREAS, Tennessee Grape and Wine Month is an opportunity to celebrate Tennessee's rich wine heritage with citizens, businesses, and community leaders working in the wine industry;

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

Grape and Wine Appreciation 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 fifteenth day of April, 2019.

Bill Lee

Governor

Joe Hargett

Secretary of State

