



STATE OF TENNESSEE
PROCLAMATION
BY THE GOVERNOR

WHEREAS, Tennesseans will soon celebrate the 100th anniversary of the 19th Amendment to the Constitution of the United States; and

WHEREAS, Tennessee's history holds an important moment in the work to make certain women could fully participate in America's great Constitutional Republic; and

WHEREAS, on August 18, 1920 pro-suffrage activists gathered in Tennessee's House Chamber, their yellow roses signifying the blossoming of a movement that began in Seneca Falls in 1848 and would culminate in Nashville after 35 states had previously ratified the 19th Amendment; and

WHEREAS, Febb Burn's letter to her son, Representative Harry Burn, gave him the confidence to remember the women writing "hurrah and vote for suffrage!" ultimately casting the deciding vote; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Burn is a part of a storied legacy of Tennessee women who fought for the right to vote including Lide Merriweather, Anne Dallas Dudley, Abby Crawford Milton, and Carrie Chapman Catt; and

WHEREAS, Tennessee earned the nickname "The Perfect 36" for her national example and leadership in making certain women where constitutionally made whole; and

WHEREAS, without Tennessee's ratification, it is unlikely that women would have been able to vote in the November elections of 1920, and the worthy cause of women's suffrage could possibly have been delayed for several more years;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Bill Lee, Governor of the State of Tennessee, do hereby proclaim August 18, 2019 through August 18, 2020 as the

Tennessee Women's Suffrage Centennial

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-third day of April, 2019.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Bill Lee".

Governor

A handwritten signature in blue ink, likely belonging to the Secretary of State.

Secretary of State

