



STATE OF TENNESSEE
PROCLAMATION
BY THE GOVERNOR

WHEREAS, one in nine men will be diagnosed with prostate cancer during his lifetime; and

WHEREAS, prostate cancer is the most commonly diagnosed cancer and the second leading cause of cancer death among American men; and

WHEREAS, in 2018 there were about 164,690 new cases of prostate cancer in the U.S. and about 2,750 in Tennessee and about 29,430 deaths from prostate cancer in the U.S. and about 600 in Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, prostate cancer affects all races and socioeconomic classes; however, African American men are at an increased risk for developing prostate cancer compared to white men and other men of color; and

WHEREAS, overall, African American men are 1.7 times more likely to be diagnosed with -- and 2.2 times more likely to die from -- prostate cancer than white men. African American men are also slightly more likely than white men to be diagnosed with advanced stages of the disease; and

WHEREAS, finding prostate cancer when it is still at an early stage offers the best hope for effective treatment and living cancer free; and

WHEREAS, if the disease progresses to metastatic castration-resistant prostate cancer (CRPC), the prognosis is poor with median survival of about 2 years; and

WHEREAS, the patient, family, health, and economic burdens of prostate cancer, particularly of advanced stage cancer are large; and

WHEREAS, improved awareness of prostate cancer, understanding of increased risks for developing it, as well as access to recent medical advances that may extend the time a patient lives without their cancer spreading are important to improve patient outcomes; and

WHEREAS, shared decision making between the patient, his family and other caregivers, and a physician is important to support the appropriate care for an individual's clinical situation; and

WHEREAS, patients should consult their physicians regarding individual risk to developing prostate cancer as well as when screening and related tests for early detection of prostate cancer are indicated, and to understand the risks and possible benefits of screening; and

WHEREAS, individuals diagnosed with prostate cancer can speak with their physician and other health care providers to learn more about the disease, and find support groups and services in their community or online; and

WHEREAS, there is still more research to be done for prostate cancer so that new and more effective treatments can be developed;

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

Prostate Cancer Awareness 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 fourth day of June, 2019.

Bill Lee

Governor

Jeannette

Secretary of State