



STATE OF TENNESSEE

PROCLAMATION

BY THE GOVERNOR

WHEREAS, 75 years ago in 1944, President Franklin Delano Roosevelt signed into law the Servicemen's Readjustment Act, also known as the G.I. Bill®, to provide Veterans with access to education, employment, and housing opportunities; and

WHEREAS, a 1988 study done by the Congressional Subcommittee on Education found that the G.I. Bill® had a return on investment in the United States economy of seven dollars for every dollar invested, and 40 percent of those Veterans who took advantage of this benefit would not otherwise have been able to attend college; and

WHEREAS, the Post-9/11 Generation of Veterans answered the call to serve and now, returning home, continue their service on our campuses, in communities, and here in Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, with the current enrollment of almost 10,000 Student Veterans, Tennessee's higher education institutions have experienced enrichment offered by the leadership, life experiences, and discipline of the Student Veteran; and

WHEREAS, Tennessee Student Veterans used 263,909,000 dollars in educational benefits at Tennessee campuses in 2018; and

WHEREAS, many of Tennessee's higher education institutions have pledged to recruit, retain and support Student Veterans through to graduation;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Bill Lee, Governor of the State of Tennessee, do hereby proclaim September 22-28, 2019 as

Student Veterans 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 ninth day of September, 2019.

Bill Lee

Governor

Jeffrey B. Bledsoe

Secretary of State