



STATE OF TENNESSEE  
**PROCLAMATION**  
BY THE GOVERNOR

**WHEREAS**, the United States Surgeon General has stated that smoking remains the single most preventable cause of premature death in our society; and

**WHEREAS**, cigarette smoking and exposure to secondhand smoke account for 480,000 deaths each year in the United States, including the deaths of 11,400 Tennesseans; and

**WHEREAS**, 125,000 Tennesseans under age 18 who are alive today will ultimately die from smoking unless smoking rates decline; and

**WHEREAS**, productivity losses caused by smoking each year equal \$3.6 billion in Tennessee; and

**WHEREAS**, quitting smoking greatly reduces the risk of developing smoking-related diseases; and

**WHEREAS**, Tennessee Quit Week is a campaign to promote the importance of and resources for quitting smoking in Tennessee; and

**WHEREAS**, dedicating a week to promote smoking cessation will encourage tobacco users to call the Tennessee Tobacco QuitLine and make a quit plan;

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, Bill Lee, Governor of the State of Tennessee, do hereby proclaim the week of February 3-7, 2020 as

*Tennessee Quit Week*

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 nineteenth day of December, 2019.

*Bill Lee*

Governor

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Secretary of State