



STATE OF TENNESSEE  
**PROCLAMATION**  
BY THE GOVERNOR

**WHEREAS**, the Latin language, although no longer spoken conversationally, is alive and well in language, literature, government, religion, law, and scientific terminology; and

**WHEREAS**, 60-70 percent of the words in English derive from the Latin language; and

**WHEREAS**, the study of Latin helps students increase and enrich their vocabulary, improve their critical thinking skills, and have a more comprehensive understanding of the world around them, thus making them more competitive in the global economy of the 21<sup>st</sup> century; and

**WHEREAS**, the state of Tennessee has a long tradition of passionate student dedication to the study of the language and culture of the ancient Romans, with approximately 50 schools and 2000 students as members of the Tennessee Junior Classical League; and

**WHEREAS**, thousands of students in Tennessee participate in the National Latin Exam, the Classical Association of the Middle West and South Translation Contest, and the Advanced Placement Latin Exam every year; and

**WHEREAS**, the traditional date for the founding of Rome is April 21, 753 BC;

**WHEREAS**, neighboring states such as Alabama (*Audemus iura nostra defendere*), Arkansas (*Regnat populus*), North Carolina (*Esse quam videri*), and Mississippi (*Virtute et armis*) all have official Latin mottoes; and

**WHEREAS**, the honorary motto selected for this month is *Musica e montibus fluit* ("Music flows from the mountains");

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, Bill Lee, Governor of the State of Tennessee, do hereby proclaim April 2020 as

*Latin Language 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 twenty-eighth day of January, 2020.

*Bill Lee*

Governor

*Joe Kergett*

Secretary of State