



STATE OF TENNESSEE
PROCLAMATION
BY THE GOVERNOR

WHEREAS, on March 22 1972, President Richard Nixon signed into law a measure that amended the Older Americans Act of 1965 and established a national nutrition program for seniors 60 years and older; and

WHEREAS, Meals on Wheels America established the "March for Meals" campaign in March 2002 to recognize the historic month, the importance of the Older Americans Act Nutrition Programs, both congregate and home-delivered, and raise awareness about the escalating problem of senior hunger and isolation; and

WHEREAS, Tennessee's Older Americans Act senior nutrition programs, both congregate and home-delivered, have served their communities admirably for 48 years; and

WHEREAS, volunteers for Older Americans Act senior nutrition programs in Tennessee are the backbone of the program and they not only deliver nutritious meals to seniors and individuals with disabilities who are at significant risk of hunger and isolation, but also caring concern and attention to their welfare; and

WHEREAS, Tennessee's Older Americans Act senior nutrition programs, provide nutritious meals to seniors and individuals with disabilities throughout our state that help them maintain their health, and independence, thereby preventing unnecessary falls, hospitalizations, and/or premature institutionalizations; and

WHEREAS, Tennessee's Older Americans Act senior nutrition programs provide an impactful socialization opportunity for millions of seniors to help combat loneliness and isolation; and

WHEREAS, Tennessee's Older Americans Act senior nutrition programs deserve to be recognized for the contributions they have made and will continue to make to their local communities, our State, and our Nation;

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

"March for Meals"
Senior Nutrition 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 twelfth day of February, 2020.



Bill Lee

Governor

Sheila Dargatz

Secretary of State