



STATE OF TENNESSEE
PROCLAMATION
BY THE GOVERNOR

WHEREAS, Lynch syndrome, formerly known as, hereditary nonpolyposis colorectal cancer (HNPCC), is a hereditary condition that causes greater risk of developing colorectal, endometrial, ovarian, stomach, hepatobiliary tract, urinary tract, skin, and brain cancer; and

WHEREAS, Lynch Syndrome creates a hereditary predisposition to a number of cancers at a high lifetime risk and often at an early onset age—The risk includes up to 82% for colorectal cancer; up to 71% risk for endometrial cancer; up to 24% risk for ovarian cancer; up to 13% risk for gastric cancer, up to 4-10% risk for urinary tract cancer; and so forth; and

WHEREAS, geneticists have projected that around 1,000,000 persons throughout the U.S., live with Lynch syndrome, since one in every 279 persons have Lynch Syndrome, and studies show that only 5-10% have been diagnosed; which leaves many persons vulnerable to develop cancer; and

WHEREAS, it is important for individuals to know their family history and share it with their physician to determine if their family may be at high risk for hereditary cancers and prompt genetic testing; and

WHEREAS, a positive genetic test will determine if these cancers are hereditary, qualifying affected individuals for regular screening to potentially prevent other cancers from becoming life threatening; and

WHEREAS, having knowledge of a Lynch syndrome diagnosis can increase cancer prevention through regular screening measures, and lead to earlier cancer detection and treatment; and

WHEREAS, on this day, we join together to raise awareness of Lynch syndrome in Tennessee and encourage all residents to learn more about this hereditary condition, to collect their family history information, and to share this pertinent information with their healthcare providers in order to assess individual risk and take steps toward detection and prevention;

NOW THEREFORE, I, Bill Lee, Governor of the State of Tennessee, do hereby proclaim March 22, 2020 as

*Lynch Syndrome Hereditary
Cancer Awareness Day*

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 thirteenth day of February, 2020.

Bill Lee

Governor

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Secretary of State

