



STATE OF TENNESSEE

PROCLAMATION

BY THE GOVERNOR

WHEREAS, April marks the passage of Title VIII of the Civil Rights Act of 1968, also known as the Fair Housing Act, which was signed into law seven days after the assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.; and

WHEREAS, this law codifies that there shall be no discrimination based on color, creed, disability, familial status, national origin race, religion or sex in the acquisition, ownership, possession or enjoyment of housing and guarantees for each citizen that critical, personal element of choice in the selection of their home; and

WHEREAS, this anniversary is an occasion for all citizens to rededicate themselves to participate in efforts to eliminate the vestiges of housing discrimination wherever they exist; and

WHEREAS, the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development and the Tennessee Human Rights Commission are responsible for the enforcement of fair housing laws and provide leadership in the effort to assure that citizens may expect to live free of discriminatory conduct in Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, only with the cooperation, commitment, and support of all Tennesseans can barriers to fair housing and to other aspects of opportunity for all be removed; and

WHEREAS, illegal barriers to equal opportunity in housing, no matter how subtle, diminish the rights of everyone; and

WHEREAS, fair housing is the policy of the State of Tennessee; and implementation of that policy requires providing for inclusive housing opportunities for all;

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

Fair Housing 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 ninth day of March, 2020.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Bill Lee".

Governor

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Joe Hargett".

Secretary of State