



STATE OF TENNESSEE  
**PROCLAMATION**  
BY THE GOVERNOR

**WHEREAS**, Memorial Day was originally called Decoration Day, a day set aside to decorate the graves of both Union and Confederate fallen soldiers with flowers; and

**WHEREAS**, in 1971, the national observance became Memorial Day, to include all men and women who died in service to our country, and the United States Congress officially designated the last Monday in May as Memorial Day; and

**WHEREAS**, on Memorial Day, Tennesseans traditionally take time to remember and express gratitude to the Soldiers, Airmen, Sailors and Marines from all our nation's wars who served and paid the supreme sacrifice to secure our future; and

**WHEREAS**, on this important day, communities across our state will remember the fallen, and will express their appreciation by placing flags on their graves, by attending ceremonies, and by solemnly reflecting on our indebtedness to the individuals who gave their lives for our freedom; and

**WHEREAS**, grateful for the opportunity to pause, on this Memorial Day, to reflect on the strength of our Nation, protected and made sacred by those who were dedicated and committed to the values for which it was founded to the extent they were willing to lay down their lives; and

**WHEREAS**, let us continue to preserve the legacy of these heroes and unite in hope that the ideals of peace, freedom and prosperity will brightly shine forever in the hearts and souls of all citizens of this great State and Nation;

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, Bill Lee, Governor of the State of Tennessee, do hereby proclaim May 25, 2020 as

*Memorial 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 twenty-third day of April, 2020.

*Bill Lee*

Governor

*Lucretia*

Secretary of State