



STATE OF TENNESSEE  
**PROCLAMATION**  
BY THE GOVERNOR

**WHEREAS**, hunting, firearms and the shooting sports are part of the history, tradition and culture of Tennessee; and

**WHEREAS**, increasing access to education and shooting sports provides opportunity to safely learn to shoot and to responsibly increase public participation in shooting sports and hunting; and

**WHEREAS**, the Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency is not only responsible for the sound management and conservation of wildlife but also teaches principles of ethical hunting, firearms safety and responsible firearm use; and

**WHEREAS**, hundreds of thousands of Tennessee residents, young and old, participate in hunting and shooting sports every year; and

**WHEREAS**, sportsmen and hunters teach others to understand the responsibilities of owning and using a firearm, while also working to ensure that our natural resources are safeguarded; and

**WHEREAS**, the firearm and ammunition industry contributed as much as \$953.18 million to Tennessee's economy in 2019 and supported 6,661 jobs; and

**WHEREAS**, those engaged in the shooting sports and hunting contributed more than \$17 million in funding for wildlife and conservation efforts through the Pittman-Robertson excise tax levied on firearms and ammunition in 2019; and

**WHEREAS**, in August 2020, organizations, businesses and others will come together to recognize National Shooting Sports Month and to spotlight shooting sports activities enjoyed by millions of Americans and to continue to promote a culture of safety and responsibility; and

**WHEREAS**, Tennesseans are encouraged to enjoy time at the range to experience the excitement, education, and tradition of the shooting sports and celebrate the industry's contributions to our state;

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

*Shooting Sports 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 fifth day of August, 2020.

*Bill Lee*

Governor

*Lu Hargett*

Secretary of State

