WHEREAS, emergencies come in many forms, and can happen at any time; and

WHEREAS, on January 31, 2020 the United States Department of Health and Human Services declared a national public health emergency as a result of COVID-19 global pandemic; and

WHEREAS, on March 12, 2020 Executive Order 14 declared a State of Emergency in Tennessee to facilitate a response to the current public health disaster; and

WHEREAS, preparing Tennesseans for disasters and emergencies is a priority of the State of Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, emergency preparedness is a cooperative effort and by working together we can help all Tennesseans; and

WHEREAS, we can and must help every Tennessean be resilient in the face of disaster; and

WHEREAS, Tennesseans may have to rely on themselves, their family, their friends, and their neighbors in large disasters until first responders arrive; and

WHEREAS, engaging Tennesseans in emergency preparedness is a cooperative, daily effort across local, state, and federal jurisdictions, so our citizens see One Tennessee emergency management effort engaged in times of crisis and insecurity; and

WHEREAS, the Tennessee Emergency Management Agency is dedicated to raising awareness as to the critical importance of individual preparedness, provides critical information to the public before, during, and after emergencies, and

WHEREAS, September is designated as National Preparedness Month;

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

Preparedness 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 twentieth day of August, 2020.

[Signature]
Governor

[Signature]
Secretary of State