WHEREAS, residents of assisted living communities are active members of the larger community, offering their knowledge, life experiences and involvement; their past contributions continue to be a vital part of our state's rich history; and their ongoing participation deepens our state's identity;

WHEREAS, assisted living is a critical long term care option for older adults and individuals with disabilities that fosters choice, dignity, and independence; assisted living communities are committed to excellence, innovation and the advancement of person-centered care;

WHEREAS, in 1995, the National Center for Assisted Living established National Assisted Living Week® to honor the contributions of assisted living communities in providing long term care to America's seniors and individuals with disabilities;

WHEREAS, this year's theme of National Assisted Living Week is "Caring is Essential," highlights the incredible care provided by essential caregivers in assisted living facilities across the country;

WHEREAS, during this special week, assisted living communities across the country are encouraged to organize activities and events which celebrate the dedication of staff, the individuality of residents, and the deep connections formed in these settings, while adhering to COVID-19 safety requirements and precautions;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Bill Lee, Governor of the State of Tennessee, do hereby proclaim September 13-19, 2020 as Assisted Living Week 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-fourth day of August, 2020.

Governor

Secretary of State