



STATE OF TENNESSEE

# PROCLAMATION

BY THE GOVERNOR

**WHEREAS**, the profession of pharmacy is one of the oldest and most trusted health care professions concerned with improving the health and well-being of all people; and

**WHEREAS**, there are more than 12,000 pharmacists licensed in Tennessee and more than 300,000 pharmacists licensed in the United States providing care and services, and

**WHEREAS**, an optimal pharmacy team includes pharmacists, pharmacy technicians, and student pharmacists working together at the top of their professional licensure to ensure that patients have access to safe and effective medication therapies; and

**WHEREAS**, pharmacists practicing in many unique patient care settings routinely establish professional and collaborative relationships with physicians, nurses, and other essential health care providers to ensure that patients achieve optimal outcomes related to their health and wellness; and

**WHEREAS**, pharmacist-led patient care services promote the safe and effective use of medications for the prevention, management, and treatment of many acute and chronic conditions and results in decreased overall health care costs and avoidance of more invasive and expensive medical procedures; and

**WHEREAS**, today's highly specific, complex, and costly medications require more intensive attention and education to ensure their proper use in many different patient population groups-both clinically and demographically; and

**WHEREAS**, it is important that all patients using prescription and nonprescription medications, including their families and/or their caregivers, are equipped with the knowledge and training necessary to optimize patients' health outcomes from their medication therapies; and

**WHEREAS**, pharmacists have extensive education and unique expertise regarding medication therapy, which places them in an ideal position to work collaboratively with patients and their health care team members to improve patients' medication use and outcomes; and

**WHEREAS**, pharmacists provide patients with expertise, knowledge, and accessibility to healthcare, which are crucial factors in improving our state's public health initiatives and outcomes; and

**WHEREAS**, pharmacists and pharmacy team members continue to be highly accessible to patients during the COVID-19 pandemic, providing immunizations, testing services, education, preventive care, and medication management in rural, suburban, and urban Tennessee communities;

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

## *Pharmacists 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 tenth day of September, 2020.

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

Governor

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Jeff Yarchoff".

Secretary of State