



STATE OF TENNESSEE
PROCLAMATION
BY THE GOVERNOR

WHEREAS, the Pilgrims left the Old World in search of religious freedom; and

WHEREAS, the Pilgrims sought to worship in their own way without fear of persecution by the government; and

WHEREAS, the final landing spot of the Mayflower immigrants was the shore of what is presently known as Plymouth, Massachusetts; and

WHEREAS, the Pilgrims and Plymouth Rock have symbolically become known as the birthplace of America all across the world; and

WHEREAS, before landing on the coast of the New World, forty-one men of the one-hundred-two passengers penned and signed a binding, governing contract that became known as The Mayflower Compact; and

WHEREAS, the Mayflower Compact was the first document to establish self-government in America; and

WHEREAS, the Mayflower established the concept of majority rule and the practice of choosing their own leaders and making their own laws; and

WHEREAS, this document promoted equality for all men under God; and

WHEREAS, many scholars attribute The Mayflower Compact as one of the precursors of the United States Constitution; and

WHEREAS, the Pilgrims' courage, gratitude to God, and love for one another is still an inspiration for us today;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Bill Lee, Governor of the State of Tennessee, do hereby proclaim the month of December, 2020 recognizing the

400th Anniversary of the Mayflower Landing

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 second day of November, 2020.

Bill Lee

Governor

Lee Hargett

Secretary of State