



STATE OF TENNESSEE
PROCLAMATION
BY THE GOVERNOR

WHEREAS, the health and well-being of all children throughout our State are of paramount importance to Tennessee's families and communities; and

WHEREAS, thousands of children are born with birth defects every year, including approximately 40,000 children in the United States who begin life with one of more than thirty-five identified forms of congenital heart defects; and

WHEREAS, congenital heart defects are among our State's most common birth defects and they can be fatal due to their seriousness and insufficient effective medical intervention options; and

WHEREAS, the origins and symptoms of congenital heart defects are becoming more readily identifiable and the range of surgical options are expanding continuously thanks to doctors' and scientists' diligent research efforts and field experiences that extend our body of knowledge every day; and

WHEREAS, many of Tennessee's families and communities are directly or indirectly affected by infant illness and death caused by congenital heart defects; and

WHEREAS, there is much to learn about the causes of and effective treatments for congenital heart defects and it is important for parents, pediatricians and nurses to recognize the warning signs associated with congenital heart defects among newborns so they may provide proper treatment as early as possible;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Bill Lee, Governor of the State of Tennessee, do hereby proclaim February 7 – February 14, 2021 as

Congenital Heart Defect Awareness 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 fourth day of January, 2021.

Bill Lee

Governor

Le Hargrett

Secretary of State