



STATE OF TENNESSEE

# PROCLAMATION

BY THE GOVERNOR

**WHEREAS**, Congenital Diaphragmatic Hernia (CDH) occurs when a baby's diaphragm fails to fully form; allowing abdominal organs into the chest cavity and preventing lung growth; and

**WHEREAS**, around one in every 2,200 live births are diagnosed with a congenital diaphragmatic hernia; and

**WHEREAS**, as many as 1,600 babies are born with CDH every year in the United States; and

**WHEREAS**, there are many people living in Tennessee who have been diagnosed with and have survived their CDH, although many families in Tennessee have endured the horrible pain and grief associated with the loss of loved ones with CDH; and

**WHEREAS**, those with CDH often endure multiple surgeries and possible medical complications beyond their diagnosis that include heart defects, pulmonary complications, gastric and intestinal problems, developmental delays, and may require respiratory and medicinal support for years; and

**WHEREAS**, raising awareness of this congenital defect will help bring about acceptance and support for those suffering with CDH, as well as highlight the need for medical research and advances;

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, Bill Lee, Governor of the State of Tennessee, do hereby proclaim April 2021 as

## *Congenital Diaphragmatic Hernia Awareness 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 eleventh day of February, 2021.

*Bill Lee*

Governor

*Joe Mangatt*

Secretary of State