

STATE OF TENNESSEE

PROCLAMATION

BY THE GOVERNOR

WHEREAS, being a victim of crime and navigating the criminal justice system can be a frightening and confusing experience; and

WHEREAS, since the passage of the Victims of Crime Act of 1984, and through the dedicated work of advocates, lawmakers, and victim service providers, there is a growing array of services and resources available to victims and their loved ones; and

WHEREAS, individuals trust in the compassion, understanding, and support of their communities is achieved through sustained, deep-rooted, and coordinated outreach; and

WHEREAS, identifying, reaching, and serving all victims of crime-especially those from groups that often have less access to healing services and avenues to justice-is essential; and

WHEREAS, Tennessee's continued engagement with the challenges faced by victims of crime will ensure that the progress made to date is not lost, and that new ground is broken to gain greater justice and healing for all victims; and

WHEREAS, National Crime Victims' Rights Week provides an opportunity to recommit to ensuring that accessible, appropriate, and trauma-informed services are offered to all victims of crime; and

WHEREAS, we are dedicated to supporting victims and survivors in the aftermath of crime, building trust among our clients; collaborating with other service providers, and engaging in response efforts;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Bill Lee, Governor of the State of Tennessee, do hereby proclaim the week of April 18 – April 24, 2021 as

Crime Victims' Rights 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 March, 2021.

Governor

Secretary of State