



STATE OF TENNESSEE  
**PROCLAMATION**

BY THE GOVERNOR

**WHEREAS**, the Bald Eagle was designated as the national emblem of the United States on June 20, 1782; and

**WHEREAS**, the Bald Eagle is unique to North America and represents such American values and attributes as freedom, courage, strength, spirit, justice, quality, and excellence; and

**WHEREAS**, the Bald Eagle is the central image used in the Great Seal of the United States and in the logos of many branches of the U.S. Government, including the Presidency, Congress, Defense Department, Treasury Department, Justice Department, State Department, Department of Commerce, and the U.S. Postal Service; and

**WHEREAS**, the Bald Eagle's image, meaning and symbolism have played a significant role in the beliefs, traditions, religions, lifestyles and heritage of Americans from all walks of life, including U.S. military service men and women, and members of various civic, fraternal, patriotic, veterans, youth, conservation, educational, outdoors, nature, sportsman, wildlife, political and sports organizations; and

**WHEREAS**, the Bald Eagle's image, meaning and symbolism have played a significant role in American art, music, literature, architecture, commerce, education and culture, and on U.S. stamps, currency and coinage; and

**WHEREAS**, the Bald Eagle was once endangered with possible extinction, but is making a gradual and encouraging comeback to America's skies; and

**WHEREAS**, the Bald Eagle was federally classified as an "endangered species" in the lower 48 states under the Endangered Species Act in 1973, and was upgraded to a less imperiled "threatened" status under that Act in 1995; and

**WHEREAS**, the Department of the Interior and U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service delisted the Bald Eagle from Endangered Species Act protection in 2007, but the species will continue to be protected under the Bald & Golden Eagle Act of 1940 and the Migratory Bird Treaty Act of 1918; and

**WHEREAS**, the recovery of the U.S.A.'s Bald Eagle population was largely accomplished due to the vigilant efforts of numerous caring agencies, corporations, organizations and citizens;

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, Bill Lee, Governor of the State of Tennessee, do hereby proclaim June 20, 2021 as

*American Eagle Day*

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 fifteenth day of April, 2021.

*Bill Lee*

Governor

*Lee Vargitt*

Secretary of State

