



STATE OF TENNESSEE  
**PROCLAMATION**

BY THE GOVERNOR

**WHEREAS**, Tennessee is home to a growing grape and wine industry, which is an important sector of agribusiness; and

**WHEREAS**, Tennessee has 69 wineries and a grape acreage of 959 acres according to the 2017 Census of Agriculture; and

**WHEREAS**, the Tennessee grape and wine industry directly provides employment for more than 400 people, including self-employed owner-operators, with recent analysis showing 12.6% growth since 2015; and

**WHEREAS**, Tennessee's grape and wine industry has become a leader in the country for industry-driven education, working with colleges and universities to bring registered apprenticeship programs to students; and

**WHEREAS**, the annual direct economic impact of Tennessee-produced wine is estimated at \$736 million; and

**WHEREAS**, the state's Wine and Grape Board was established in 2019 to promote and support the growth of the grape and wine industry by increasing the number of wineries and improving the quality of grapes and wines; and

**WHEREAS**, vineyards and wineries play an important role in Tennessee's tourism industry, significantly enhancing tourism in the State by providing unique travel destinations, green space, and aesthetic appeal; and

**WHEREAS**, Tennessee Grape and Wine Month is an opportunity to celebrate Tennessee's rich grape and wine heritage with citizens, businesses, and community leaders working in the grape and wine industry;

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

*Grape and Wine Appreciation 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 sixteenth day of April, 2021.

*Bill Lee*

Governor

*See Dargatz*

Secretary of State

