



STATE OF TENNESSEE  
**PROCLAMATION**

BY THE GOVERNOR

**WHEREAS**, May 14, 2021 marks Childhood Apraxia of Speech Day during which awareness will be raised throughout Tennessee about Childhood Apraxia of Speech, a particularly difficult, persistent, and severe speech and communication disorder in the young; and

**WHEREAS**, Childhood Apraxia of Speech (CAS) causes children to have extreme difficulty learning to speak and it is among the most severe of speech and communication problems in children; and

**WHEREAS**, the act of learning to speak comes effortlessly to most children, but those with Apraxia endure an incredible and lengthy struggle; and

**WHEREAS**, without appropriate intervention, children with apraxia are then placed at high risk for secondary impacts in literacy and other school-related skills; and

**WHEREAS**, most children with apraxia of speech will learn to communicate with their very own voices only if they receive early intervention and appropriate, intensive, and frequent speech therapy; and

**WHEREAS**, it is imperative that there be greater public awareness about childhood apraxia of speech in Tennessee; and

**WHEREAS**, children and families affected by this disorder should be commended for their effort, determination, and resilience in the face of such obstacles;

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, Bill Lee, Governor of the State of Tennessee, do hereby proclaim May 14, 2021 as

*Apraxia Awareness 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 twenty-sixth day of April, 2021.

*Bill Lee*

Governor

*Julie Engelt*

Secretary of State