



STATE OF TENNESSEE  
**PROCLAMATION**  
BY THE GOVERNOR

**WHEREAS**, around one half-million babies per year in the U.S. are born preterm and are often admitted to neonatal intensive care units; and

**WHEREAS**, families of NICU babies struggle to find resources, support, and education; and

**WHEREAS**, funding for research into the causes of a NICU stay as well as the holistic care of NICU families is vital; and

**WHEREAS**, NICU Awareness Day provides an opportunity for families whose lives have been affected by NICUs to share their story, honor dedicated health professionals, and fellowship with others so that these families can know they are not alone; and

**WHEREAS**, the establishment of NICU Awareness Month will also provide visibility to research that improves the quality of life for NICU babies and their parents;

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, Bill Lee, Governor of the State of Tennessee, do hereby proclaim September 30, 2021 as

*Neonatal Intensive Care 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 July, 2021.

*Bill Lee*

Governor

*Ju Dargatzis*

Secretary of State