WHEREAS, ensuring that routine vaccination is maintained is essential for protecting individuals and communities from vaccine-preventable diseases and outbreaks; and

WHEREAS, providers are trusted voices for Tennesseans as they work to understand personal risks and get the facts; and

WHEREAS, contacting your primary care provider to make a plan to close in gaps in care including routine well check visits will assist in identifying routine vaccination needs; and

WHEREAS, young children are particularly vulnerable to vaccine-preventable diseases until they can be fully immunized; and

WHEREAS, it is equally important for adults to keep vaccinations up to date as adults are at risk for different diseases as immunity lessen over time; and

WHEREAS, the COVID-19 pandemic continues in impact the health and wellbeing of Tennesseans; and

WHEREAS, it is estimated that vaccines have prevented 6 million deaths from vaccine-preventable diseases annually; and

WHEREAS, vaccines are demonstrated to be an exceptionally safe method to prevent disease, as they are thoroughly tested before licensing and carefully monitored to ensure safety, including the COVID-19 vaccine; and

WHEREAS, Tennesseans are encouraged to see their provider, ask questions and make a plan for immunizations;

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

**Immunization Awareness 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 third day of August, 2021.

[Signature]
Governor

[Signature]
Secretary of State