



STATE OF TENNESSEE  
**PROCLAMATION**  
BY THE GOVERNOR

**WHEREAS**, the tragedy of drug overdose deaths continue to affect too many Tennessee families with more than 3,000 deaths from drug overdose in 2020; and

**WHEREAS**, drug overdose and accidental or intentional deaths associated with overdose are preventable through intervention, training, naloxone distribution, education, and outreach; and

**WHEREAS**, individuals who suffer an overdose and survive can be connected with treatment services, successfully complete a program, and live a life of recovery from substance use disorder; and

**WHEREAS**, countless Tennesseans have done just that and today proudly serve their state increasing the resiliency, recovery, and independence of their neighbors through overdose prevention, substance use treatment, and countless other fruitful initiatives; and

**WHEREAS**, International Overdose Awareness Day is an opportunity for all Tennesseans to stand beside those who have lost loved ones to an overdose and those who have a substance use disorder and are diligently working toward recovery;

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, Bill Lee, Governor of the State of Tennessee, do hereby proclaim August 31, 2021 as

*Overdose 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 fourth day of August, 2021.

*Bill Lee*

Governor

*Joe Vargatt*

Secretary of State