

STATE OF TENNESSEE

PROCLAMATION

BY THE GOVERNOR

WHEREAS, the State of Tennessee is committed to remaining competitive in the global economy; and

WHEREAS, Tennessee employers need an educated and skilled workforce to ensure high-quality, well-paying jobs are continuously available in our state for our citizens; and

WHEREAS, access to a college savings plan is one way Tennessee invests in the bright futures of our youngest citizens; and

WHEREAS, the Tennessee General Assembly created the TNStars College Savings 529 Program to encourage Tennessee families to save and invest for the future cost of higher education in a tax-advantaged way; and

WHEREAS, funds saved and invested in TNStars can be used to cover qualified educational expenses that directly support a child's education including tuition, housing, supplies, equipment, textbooks, computers, and computer software; and

WHEREAS, the TNStars program was launched in September 2012, and since then has grown from zero dollars to more than \$267.1 million as of June 30, 2021, on behalf of 21,412 TNStars account beneficiaries; and

WHEREAS, on average, more than \$0.37 of every dollar saved in a TNStars account is the result of investment earnings; and

WHEREAS, Tennessee is making saving for college accessible to all Tennessee families as accounts can be established online with as little as \$25 to start;

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

College Savings 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 eighteenth day of August, 2021.

Governor

Secretary of State