



STATE OF TENNESSEE

# PROCLAMATION

BY THE GOVERNOR

**WHEREAS**, colorectal cancer is the second-leading cause of cancer deaths in the United States among men and women combined;

**WHEREAS**, colorectal cancer is one of the few cancers that can be prevented with timely screening, but 1 out of every 4 eligible Americans is not up-to-date on screening;

**WHEREAS**, colorectal cancer is estimated to be the number one cancer killer for those ages 20-49 by 2030;

**WHEREAS**, Black Americans are about 13% more likely to be diagnosed with colorectal cancer and about 29% more likely to die from the disease than White Americans;

**WHEREAS**, colorectal cancer is expected to account for 11% of cancer deaths among Hispanic men and 9% of cancer deaths for Hispanic women;

**WHEREAS**, The National Cancer Institute estimates that there could be as many as 4,500 additional colorectal cancer deaths by 2030 because of the drop in screening due to COVID-19;

**WHEREAS**, the national goal established by the National Colorectal Cancer Roundtable is to strive to increase timely colorectal cancer screening rates to 80 percent in every community for all Americans eligible for screening;

**WHEREAS**, observing a Colorectal Cancer Awareness Month during the month of March would provide a special opportunity to increase awareness and offer education on the importance of early detection and screening of colorectal cancer;

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, Bill Lee, Governor of the State of Tennessee, do hereby proclaim February 2022 as

## *Colorectal Cancer 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 thirty-first day of January 2022.

*Bill Lee*

Governor

*Jo Vignot*

Secretary of State