



STATE OF TENNESSEE  
**PROCLAMATION**  
BY THE GOVERNOR

**WHEREAS**, multiple myeloma (or myeloma) is a cancer of plasma cells in the bone marrow and is called "multiple" because the primary tumor usually presents as multiple lesions in bone; and

**WHEREAS**, multiple myeloma causes a variety of adverse health effects, including a weakened immune system, anemia, kidney damage, and bone deterioration; and

**WHEREAS**, multiple myeloma is the third most common blood cancer worldwide; and

**WHEREAS**, every 15 minutes someone in the U.S. is diagnosed with multiple myeloma; and

**WHEREAS**, once predominantly found among those 65 and over, where it continues to be most frequently diagnosed, multiple myeloma is increasingly being identified in younger individuals including those in their 30s, 40s and 50s;

**WHEREAS**, multiple myeloma is almost twice as likely to occur among African-Americans and is one of the leading causes of cancer deaths among African-Americans, with scientific understanding of the disparity remaining unknown; and

**WHEREAS**, the cause of multiple myeloma is not known, with robust research being performed in the U.S. and internationally into potential genetic, environmental, and other risk factors; and

**WHEREAS**, greater awareness of multiple myeloma on the part of clinicians and the general public can lead to earlier detection and treatment, improving health outcomes and bringing comfort to patients and their families; and

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, Governor Bill Lee, do hereby proclaim the month of March 2022 as

*Multiple Myeloma Action 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 twenty-eighth day of February, 2022.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Bill Lee".

Governor

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Julie Kuntz".

Secretary of State

