



STATE OF TENNESSEE

PROCLAMATION

BY THE GOVERNOR

WHEREAS, Thrombocytopenia-Absent Radius (TAR) syndrome is characterized by the absence of a bone called the radius in each forearm and a deficiency of blood cells involved in clotting platelets; and

WHEREAS, this platelet deficiency (thrombocytopenia) usually appears during infancy and becomes less severe over time, and in some cases the platelet levels become normal; and

WHEREAS, thrombocytopenia prevents normal blood clotting, resulting in easy bruising and frequent nosebleeds. Potentially life-threatening episodes of severe bleeding (hemorrhages) may occur in the brain and other organs, especially during the first year of life; and

WHEREAS, hemorrhages can damage the brain and lead to intellectual disability. Affected children who survive this period and do not have damaging hemorrhages in the brain usually have a normal life expectancy and normal intellectual development; and

WHEREAS, the severity of skeletal problems in TAR syndrome varies among affected individuals. The radius, which is the bone on the thumb side of the forearm, is almost always missing in both arms. The other bone in the forearm, which is called the ulna, is sometimes underdeveloped or absent in one or both arms; and

WHEREAS, TAR syndrome is unusual among similar malformations in that affected individuals have thumbs, while people with other conditions involving an absent radius typically do not. However, there may be other abnormalities of the hands, such as webbed or fused fingers (syndactyly) or curved pinky fingers (fifth finger clinodactyly). Some people with TAR syndrome also have skeletal abnormalities affecting the upper arms, legs, or hip sockets;

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

TAR Syndrome 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 March, 2022.

Bill Lee

Governor

Scott R. Fitzgerald

Secretary of State