



STATE OF TENNESSEE  
**PROCLAMATION**

BY THE GOVERNOR

**WHEREAS**, nearly 40% of all food produced in the U.S. goes to waste, including up to 1.2 million tons of food per year in Tennessee; and

**WHEREAS**, wasting food also wastes the immense resources that go into growing, transporting, and storing food, including the land, water, energy, and other inputs; and

**WHEREAS**, a family of four typically wastes an average of \$1500 per year on uneaten food, and the total economic loss associated with food waste is estimated to be approximately \$218 billion per year;

**WHEREAS**, providing education and raising awareness on reducing food waste benefits all Tennesseans by helping households save money, providing an important resource to food banks through the recovery of edible food, and helps protect our nation's resources; and

**WHEREAS**, the state of Tennessee is coordinating its inaugural Food Waste Awareness Week to engage citizens, households, businesses, and other entities with the resources, information, and education around strategies for addressing food waste;

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, Bill Lee, Governor of the State of Tennessee, do hereby proclaim the week of April 4-9, 2022 as

*Food Waste Awareness Week*

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 fifth day of April, 2022.

*Bill Lee*

Governor

*Lee Hargett*

Secretary of State