



STATE OF TENNESSEE

PROCLAMATION

BY THE GOVERNOR

WHEREAS, May 14, 2022, marks Childhood Apraxia of Speech Day during which awareness will be raised throughout Tennessee about Childhood Apraxia of Speech, a particularly difficult, persistent, and severe speech and communication disorder in the young; and

WHEREAS, Childhood Apraxia of Speech (CAS) causes children to have extreme difficulty learning to speak and it is among the most severe speech and communication problems in children; and

WHEREAS, the act of learning to speak comes effortlessly to most children, but those with Apraxia endure an incredible and lengthy struggle; and

WHEREAS, without appropriate intervention, children with apraxia are then placed at high risk for secondary impacts in literacy and other school-related skills; and

WHEREAS, most children with apraxia of speech will learn to communicate with their very own voices only if they receive early intervention and appropriate, intensive, and frequent speech therapy; and

WHEREAS, it is imperative there be greater public awareness about childhood apraxia of speech in Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, we especially encourage funders such as insurance providers and schools to recognize the critical need to provide adequate speech therapy and other services so that the impact of this disorder can be minimized and so that affected children can grow into productive, contributing adult citizens; and

WHEREAS, our highest respect goes to these children, as well as their families for their effort, determination, and resilience in the face of such obstacles;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Bill Lee, Governor of the State of Tennessee, do hereby proclaim May 14, 2022 as

Apraxia Awareness Day

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 twelfth day of May, 2022.

Governor

Secretary of State