



STATE OF TENNESSEE  
**PROCLAMATION**  
BY THE GOVERNOR

**WHEREAS**, forage is defined as the grasses and legumes grown and managed for consumption by livestock; and

**WHEREAS**, Tennessee produces 4 million acres of forage annually for a myriad of purposes; and

**WHEREAS**, this forage provides the diet for 2 million cattle, sheep, goats, and horses, and supports \$1 billion in agricultural income for the state; and

**WHEREAS**, all Tennesseans enjoy the beautiful landscape and recreational foundations forage provides and want to appreciate it as such; and

**WHEREAS**, National Forage Week serves to pay homage to the forages that not only provide quality food for livestock but also provide food, cover, and shelter for wildlife. These forages also provide diverse habitat for pollinator species, reduce soil erosion, improve soil health, and filter sediments to reduce water pollution; and

**WHEREAS**, National Forage Week connects consumers with the indispensable role forages contribute to everyday life, including meat products, dairy products and ornamental grasses; and

**WHEREAS**, National Forage Week preserves the agrarian heritage and the rural lifestyle of both our country and Tennessee; and

**NOW THEREFORE**, I, Bill Lee, Governor of the Great State of Tennessee, do hereby proclaim June 19-25, 2022 as

*Forage 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 first day of June, 2022.

*Bill Lee*

Governor

*Joe Knight*

Secretary of State

