



STATE OF TENNESSEE

PROCLAMATION

BY THE GOVERNOR

WHEREAS, the people of Tennessee recognize the sacrifice of the members of our Armed Services and their families; and

WHEREAS, it is appropriate to honor those who have made the ultimate sacrifice in defense of our freedom; and

WHEREAS, we remember the families who have lost their loved ones in combat; and

WHEREAS, United States Marine Corporal William R. Ragsdale of Nashville, Tennessee, was killed July 6, 1944, while serving his country; and

WHEREAS, Ragsdale a member of Headquarters Company, 1st Battalion, 24th Marine Regiment, 4th Marine Division, was a part of the invasion force of the island of Saipan in a larger effort to capture the Mariana Islands from Japan on June 15, 1944; and

WHEREAS, Ragsdale, was initially reported as wounded in action and evacuated from Saipan on June 28. When he was unable to be found during the chaos surrounding the battle and its aftermath, his status was changed to missing in action and then later deceased; and

WHEREAS, on June 15, 2022, the Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency (DPAA) announced that Marine Corps Reserve Cpl. William R. Ragsdale, 23, of Nashville Tennessee, killed during World War II was accounted for on April 15, 2022; and

WHEREAS, his remains have been returned to his native state and are to be laid to rest in his hometown of Nashville on August 6, 2022; and

WHEREAS, we are grateful to finally welcome home this brave marine who made the ultimate sacrifice for his country;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Bill Lee, Governor of the State of Tennessee, do hereby proclaim August 6, 2022, as a

*Day of Mourning in Remembrance of
Corporal William R. Ragsdale*

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 second day of August, 2022.

Bill Lee

Governor

Ju Dargatz

Secretary of State