



STATE OF TENNESSEE
PROCLAMATION
BY THE GOVERNOR

WHEREAS, ovarian cancer is the fifth leading cause of cancer deaths of women in the United States and causes more deaths than any other gynecologic cancer; and

WHEREAS, in the United States, a woman's lifetime risk of being diagnosed with ovarian cancer is about 1 in 78; and

WHEREAS, the American Cancer Society estimates there will be 19,880 new cases of and 12,810 deaths caused by ovarian cancer in the United States in 2022, including an estimated 260 deaths in Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, the five-year survival rate for ovarian cancer ranges from 20-89% and depends on the stage of the cancer at the time of diagnosis; and

WHEREAS, while the mammogram can detect breast cancer and the Pap smear can detect cervical cancer, there is no reliable early detection test for ovarian cancer; and

WHEREAS, Black women with ovarian cancer are more likely to have late-stage diagnoses, receive lower quality clinical services, and have lower five-year survival rates than non-Black women; and

WHEREAS, women of color, low-income women, and women living in rural areas have more barriers to accessing standard quality of care and may be more likely to receive care at a facility that has poorer adherence to National Comprehensive Cancer Network treatment guidelines; and

WHEREAS, many people remain unaware of the symptoms of ovarian cancer, which often include bloating, pelvic or abdominal pain, difficulty eating or feeling full quickly, urinary symptoms, and several other vague symptoms that are often easily confused with other diseases;

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

Ovarian Cancer 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 August, 2022.

Bill Lee

Governor

Joe Hargett

Secretary of State