



STATE OF TENNESSEE

PROCLAMATION

BY THE GOVERNOR

WHEREAS, fetal alcohol spectrum disorder (FASD) is an umbrella term describing the range of effects that can occur in an individual who was exposed to alcohol before birth; with fetal alcohol syndrome (FAS) being the most recognizable condition along the spectrum; and

WHEREAS, prenatal alcohol exposure is the leading preventable cause of birth defects and intellectual and developmental disabilities; and

WHEREAS, the exact number of people who have FASDs is unknown, but it is estimated that up to 1 in 20 U.S. school children may have an FASD, with 1 in 7 pregnancies being alcohol exposed; and

WHEREAS, among pregnant people, 1 in 7 report alcohol use, and close to 1 in 20 report binge drinking in the past 30 days; and

WHEREAS, many people may not know they are pregnant for the first 4-6 weeks, contributing to late entry into prenatal care which presents a barrier to optimal pregnancy management, particularly during the crucial early weeks; and

WHEREAS, the good health and well-being of the people of Tennessee are both enhanced by the support of a national effort to learn about and prevent FASDs; and

WHEREAS, The Papillion Center for FASD joins with FASD United as well as many dedicated volunteers, health care professionals, educators, and parent groups by participating in this promotion;

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

FASD 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 sixth day of September, 2022.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Bill Lee".

Governor

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Lee Hargis".

Secretary of State

