



STATE OF TENNESSEE

PROCLAMATION

BY THE GOVERNOR

WHEREAS, an ethical, well-trained, and dedicated direct support professional workforce is often the bridge to inclusion for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities; and

WHEREAS, empathy and genuine understanding of persons with disabilities are fostered in communities through the work of direct support professionals; and

WHEREAS, communities are strengthened and enriched by the inclusion of all members of society, including people with disabilities; and

WHEREAS, people with disabilities may be better able to secure and maintain gainful employment with the support of direct support professionals; and

WHEREAS, many families of people with disabilities are supported through the efforts and assistance of direct support professionals; and

WHEREAS, the lives of children and adults with disabilities are enriched through the work of direct support professionals; and

WHEREAS, people without families often find friendship and love from direct support professionals; and

WHEREAS, thousands of direct support professionals live and work in Tennessee and deserve recognition for the essential support they provide to people with disabilities;

NOW, THEREFORE, I Bill Lee, Governor of the State of Tennessee, do hereby proclaim September 11-17, 2022 as

Direct Support Professionals Recognition 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 sixth day of September 2022.

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

Governor

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Sue Wingard".

Secretary of State