



STATE OF TENNESSEE

# PROCLAMATION

BY THE GOVERNOR

**WHEREAS**, the citizens of the State of Tennessee share a desire to raise awareness and encourage the prevention of falls and injuries among older adults; and

**WHEREAS**, older adult falls are increasing and often adversely affect the duration of independent living; and

**WHEREAS**, in 2020, over 800 older Tennesseans died because of falls, which is more than 2 people per day; and

**WHEREAS**, in 2020, over 53,000 older Tennesseans visited emergency departments because of injuries caused by falling, which is 145 people a day; and

**WHEREAS**, with more than 10,000 older Americans turning 65 each day, the number of fall-related injuries and deaths are expected to surge, unless preventive measures are taken; and

**WHEREAS**, preventative measures such as engaging in strength and balance exercise, undergoing routine vision checks, and installing appropriate safety equipment at home can make a significant difference; and

**WHEREAS**, fall prevention awareness promotes evidence-based prevention programs and strategies to reduce the staggering number of falls deaths in older adults each year;

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, Bill Lee, Governor of the State of Tennessee, do hereby proclaim September 19-23, 2022 as

## *Fall Prevention Awareness 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 thirteenth day of September, 2022.

*Bill Lee*

Governor

*Justin P. Sizemore*

Secretary of State