



STATE OF TENNESSEE

PROCLAMATION

BY THE GOVERNOR

WHEREAS, Tennessee has a rich and storied tradition of hunting and angling that is woven into the cultural fabric of our communities; and

WHEREAS, these time-honored traditions provide opportunities for sport and leisure, food security, and time with family and friends. They embody the American spirit of adventure and resourcefulness, inspiring gratitude for the natural beauty found across the state; and

WHEREAS, Tennessee's sportsmen and women were among the first conservationists to support the establishment of the Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency (TWRA) and together strengthened the focus on the conservation and sustainability of wildlife and its habitat; and

WHEREAS, 99% of TWRA's budget is provided by sportsmen and women through the American System of Conservation Funding, a "user pays-public benefits" approach that is widely recognized as the most successful model for funding fish and wildlife management; and

WHEREAS, last year alone, Tennessee's sportsmen and women generated nearly \$61 million dollars through this system to support the conservation efforts of the Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency; and

WHEREAS, over 1.3 million hunters and anglers support the state's economy through their spending, contributing to the \$7.2 billion spent on outdoor activities in Tennessee last year; and

WHEREAS, on Hunting and Fishing Day we celebrate Tennessee's hunters and anglers for their immense contribution to fish and wildlife conservation;

NOW, THEREFORE, I Bill Lee, Governor of the State of Tennessee, do hereby proclaim Saturday, September 24, 2022, as

Hunting and Fishing Day

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 nineteenth day of September 2022.

Bill Lee

Governor

Joe Bergott

Secretary of State