WHEREAS, approximately 1 in every 700 children are born with Down syndrome, representing approximately 1,000 individuals in the Mid-South; and

WHEREAS, recent advances in Down Syndrome research have proven that early intervention, education, social support, therapeutic care, and positive public attitudes improve each individual's chances of living an independent, productive, and satisfying life; and

WHEREAS, people with Down Syndrome possess a wide range of abilities and are active participants in educational, occupational, social, and recreational circles of the community; and

WHEREAS, individuals with Down Syndrome should have equal opportunity to achieve the universally desired goals of self-fulfillment, pride in their achievements, inclusion in their community, and reaching their fullest potential; and

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

Down Syndrome 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 fourth day of October, 2022.

Governor

Secretariat of State