



STATE OF TENNESSEE

PROCLAMATION

BY THE GOVERNOR

WHEREAS, fifty-two percent of Tennessee is forested, providing raw material to the forest products industry, as well as recreational opportunities and vital ecosystem functions; and

WHEREAS, of Tennessee's 13.9 million forested acres, 83 percent is privately stewarded by 335,000 landowners owning an average of 44 acres; and

WHEREAS, oak-hickory is the dominant species covering nearly 10 million acres, making Tennessee one of the top hardwood-lumber-producing states in the nation; and

WHEREAS, active forest management provides a renewable resource to meet the global demand for a wide range of forest products while encouraging the use of sustainably-harvested wood products; and

WHEREAS, the forest products sector makes important contributions to Tennessee's overall economic prosperity-especially in rural communities-generating \$21.7 billion in goods and services annually and employing more than 85,500 Tennesseans across our state; and

WHEREAS, Tennessee's average annual sawtimber removals on timberland are estimated at 1.3 billion board feet, 84.6% of which comes from private landowners; and

WHEREAS, Tennessee's working forests play an essential role in providing a wide array of ecosystem services, including improved air quality, clean water, wildlife habitat, and biodiversity;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Bill Lee, Governor of the State of Tennessee, do hereby proclaim October 16 - 22, 2022 as

Tennessee Forest Products 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 October 2022.

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

Governor

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Joe Ransford".

Secretary of State