



STATE OF TENNESSEE
PROCLAMATION
BY THE GOVERNOR

WHEREAS, the State of Tennessee recognizes all children deserve a safe, loving, and permanent home; and

WHEREAS, loving and supportive families can help children or teens overcome past traumatic experiences and reach their full potential; and

WHEREAS, more than 450 Tennessee children and teens in foster care are currently eligible to be adopted; and

WHEREAS, it is appropriate to both raise awareness for those children who are waiting for forever families and celebrate Tennessee's adoptive families; and

WHEREAS, the Tennessee Fosters Hope initiative provides increased support for children who are adopted or in foster care and their families, and is focused on increasing rates of permanency for our children; and

WHEREAS, in the 2022 Federal Fiscal Year, the Tennessee Department of Children's Services found permanency for 1,139 Tennessee children in foster care who were adopted into forever families; and

WHEREAS, in the 2022 State Fiscal Year, 578 private domestic adoptions and 50 international adoptions were completed by child-placing agencies licensed in Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, the State recognizes that private child-placing and foster care agencies, as well as non-profit organizations that support and advocate for adoption and adoption-friendly policies, play important roles in creating forever families;

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

Adoption 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 twenty-seventh day of October 2022.

Bill Lee

Governor

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Secretary of State