



STATE OF TENNESSEE
PROCLAMATION
BY THE GOVERNOR

WHEREAS, Tennessee recognizes the importance of supporting early literacy as foundational for all learning and as a critical milestone for every student for future academic, career and life-long success; and

WHEREAS, Tennessee has prioritized academic success for students over the past decade, continuing under this administration with the foundational literacy goals outlined in the Tennessee Literacy Success Act; and

WHEREAS, Tennessee is aligning educator preparation practices to foundational literacy skills, including phonemic awareness, fluency, vocabulary, and comprehension and providing educators with supports to teach these essential skills; and

WHEREAS, Tennessee is investing in free reading resources and supports to ensure our early learners and their families are given every opportunity to become proficient readers from the start of kindergarten through the third grade, including tutoring and summer learning programs to help students reach reading proficiency; and

WHEREAS, in 2021, the Tennessee Department of Education launched Reading 360 to create free training, professional development and literacy materials for educators, as well as increase access to tutoring and online supports to develop foundational skills in literacy for students; and

WHEREAS, the Tennessee Department of Education is investing more than \$170 million to support summer programming and student achievement through the statewide Tennessee Accelerating Literacy and Learning Corps (TN ALL Corps) to provide tutoring support in reading or math to over 200,000 students between the 2020-21 school year and summer 2024; and

WHEREAS, Tennessee continues its commitment to invest in student literacy across the state and to provide multiple pathways for student success in reading and literacy;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Bill Lee, Governor of the State of Tennessee, do hereby proclaim March 2023 as

Literacy 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 fourteenth day of February 2023.

Bill Lee

Governor

Julie Hight

Secretary of State