



STATE OF TENNESSEE

PROCLAMATION

BY THE GOVERNOR

WHEREAS, it is important to promote awareness and understanding of a genetic disorder known as Neurofibromatosis (NF), formerly known as Von Recklinghausen disease; and

WHEREAS, Neurofibromatosis affects over 128,000 Americans and 2,700 Tennesseans; and

WHEREAS, children with NF are usually born with six or more brown oval or circular spots in the skin called cafe-au-lait spots as well as freckles under the arms or in the groin region and develop other characteristics such as benign skin tumors; and

WHEREAS, the disorder can also lead to the loss of sight or hearing, skeletal defects such as abnormal curvature of the spine, disfigurement, chronic pain, cardiovascular problems (including high blood pressure), cancer, and a wide variety of other complications; and

WHEREAS, NF causes tumors to grow on nerves throughout the body and also can affect development of the brain, cardiovascular system, bones, and skin; and

WHEREAS, it is important to support the development of improved therapies for early intervention and other necessary and critical treatments, and encourage further research into this disorder; and

WHEREAS, by raising awareness of this disorder, we hope to have a positive and productive impact on the lives of all people with NF, their caregivers, and families;

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

Neurofibromatosis 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 twentieth day of April 2023.

Bill Lee

Governor

Joe Kergett

Secretary of State