



STATE OF TENNESSEE  
**PROCLAMATION**

BY THE GOVERNOR

**WHEREAS**, Tennessee is home to a growing wine and grape industry, which is an important sector of agribusiness; and

**WHEREAS**, Tennessee has 85 wineries and 29 tasting rooms for a total of 114 places from Mountain City to Memphis to taste Tennessee wine; and

**WHEREAS**, Tennessee vineyards grow more than 30 different varieties of grapes; and

**WHEREAS**, the Tennessee wine and grape industry directly provides employment for more than 800 people, including self-employed owner-operators; and

**WHEREAS**, Tennessee's wine and grape industry is partnering with colleges and universities, to support the development of resources and educational programs such as vineyard research, fermentation science programs, and registered apprenticeship programs for students; and

**WHEREAS**, the annual economic impact of the Tennessee wine and grape industry is estimated at more than \$3 billion; and

**WHEREAS**, the Tennessee Wine Trail supports 60 wine stops and boasts 930 members from 19 states since its inception in September 2022; and

**WHEREAS**, vineyards and wineries play an important role in Tennessee's tourism industry with more than \$74 million spent by visitors annually as they enjoy unique travel destinations, green space, and aesthetic appeal; and

**WHEREAS**, Tennessee Wine and Grape Appreciation Month is an opportunity to celebrate Tennessee's rich wine and grape heritage with citizens, businesses, and community leaders working in the wine and grape industry;

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

*Wine and Grape Appreciation 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 second day of May 2023.

*Bill Lee*

Governor

*Justin D. ...*

Secretary of State