



STATE OF TENNESSEE
PROCLAMATION
BY THE GOVERNOR

WHEREAS, Helen Keller was an accomplished, respected, and renowned DeafBlind Americans;
and

WHEREAS, it is appropriate to recognize Helen Keller as a guiding example of courage, hope,
determination, and achievement for other individuals who are hearing and vision impaired; and

WHEREAS, having combined hearing and vision loss has been estimated to affect more than 2.4
million people in the U.S. 69,000 of whom are Tennessee residents; and

WHEREAS, people who are deaf-blind attend college, participate in social activities, manage their
everyday life and are actively engaged in their communities through employment and civic activities;
and

WHEREAS, the state of Tennessee encourages citizens to provide support by fostering the
employment of, and promoting housing and recreational options for, individuals who are deaf-blind;
and

WHEREAS, the Tennessee Department of Human Services, Division of Vocational Rehabilitation
Services, DeafBlind Interagency Team which includes the Tennessee DeafBlind Project, Partnership
for Families, Children and Adults, Bridges, and the Helen Keller National Center Southeast, work
collaboratively to encourage increased awareness;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Bill Lee, Governor of the State of Tennessee to hereby proclaim
June 25th - July 1st 2023 as

Helen Keller DeafBlind Awareness 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 fifth day
of June 2023.



Bill Lee

Governor

Lee Pardo

Secretary of State