

## STATE OF TENNESSEE

## PROCLAMATION

BY THE GOVERNOR

WHEREAS, highway-grade crossing crashes during 2022 resulted in 4 fatalities and 22 injured in Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, pedestrian/railroad trespass incidents on railroad property during the 2022 resulted in 9 fatalities and 11 injured in Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, collisions between trains and motor vehicles or pedestrians may be prevented by increased public awareness of the dangers at crossings, trespassing on railroad property, and the related safety laws, and

WHEREAS, highway-grade crossing crashes are more severe than highway collisions and are more likely to result in death or injury; and

WHEREAS, Operation Lifesaver, is a public information and education program dedicated to preventing highway-rail grade crossing crashes and pedestrian/railroad trespass incidents; and

WHEREAS, during September 18-24, 2023, and throughout the year, all citizens are encouraged to observe added caution as motorists or pedestrians near tracks or trains; and

WHEREAS, this important observance should lead to greater safety awareness and a reduction in highway-rail grade crossing crashes and pedestrian/railroad incidents;

NOW, THEREFORE, I Bill Lee, Governor of the state of Tennessee, do hereby proclaim September 18-24, 2023, as

Rail Safety 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 tenth day of August 2023.

Governor

Secretary of State