



STATE OF TENNESSEE  
**PROCLAMATION**  
BY THE GOVERNOR

**WHEREAS**, Tennessee's economic landscape is positively impacted by the more than \$94 million of farm products produced and sold for consumption by our local farmers; and

**WHEREAS**, opened in 1998 on the campus of UT Knoxville as the Agricultural Development Center, and renamed in 2002 as the Center for Profitable Agriculture is currently located at the 4-H Ridley Center in Columbia, Tennessee; and

**WHEREAS**, the Center's original mission was to evaluate farmer ideas for success; over the coming years their mission was broadened to include Extension publishing and proactive outreach programs focused on "helping farmers develop value-added enterprises"; and

**WHEREAS**, 2023 marks the 25th anniversary of the Center for Profitable Agriculture, celebrating their years of collaboration with stakeholders, agencies, departments, and educational institutions; and

**WHEREAS**, the Center conducts over 1,800 educational workshops and provides consultations in Tennessee's 95 counties with more than 1,000 on-site farm visits, developing more than 510 publications and fact sheets; and

**WHEREAS**, in Tennessee the Center for Profitable Agriculture has been instrumental in the increased number of farmers markets, farms offering agritourism and recreational sales, those marketing products direct from farm to retail outlets, the number of farms producing and selling value-added products, and farm products sold direct to consumers; and

**WHEREAS**, the Center for Profitable Agriculture continues to use a team approach in addressing farmer needs and helps to develop value-added enterprises through their impactful, innovative, responsive, proactive, timely, and trusted work;

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

*25th Anniversary of the  
Center for Profitable Agriculture*

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 fifteenth day of August, 2023.

Governor

Secretary of State

