



STATE OF TENNESSEE
PROCLAMATION
BY THE GOVERNOR

WHEREAS, Tennessee has a rich and storied tradition of hunting and angling, that is woven into the cultural fabric of our communities; and

WHEREAS, these time-honored traditions provide opportunities for sport and leisure, time with family and friends, as well as increased food security; and

WHEREAS, Tennessee's hunting and fishing enthusiasts were among the first conservationists to support the establishment of the Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency (TWRA) and together have strengthened the focus on the conservation and sustainability of wildlife and its habitat; and

WHEREAS, the TWRA is largely funded, by sportsmen and women, through the American System of Conservation Funding a "user pays - public benefits" approach that is widely recognized as the most successful model for the funding of fish and wildlife management; and

WHEREAS, in 2022 alone, Tennessee's sportsmen and women generated \$96,530,163 through this system to support the ongoing conservation efforts of the Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency; and

WHEREAS, 1,652,206 hunters and anglers support Tennessee's economy through their spending, contributing to the \$9 billion spent on outdoor activities in Tennessee last year; and

WHEREAS, National Hunting and Fishing Day was established in 1972 to celebrate and recognize hunters and anglers for their immense contributions to fish and wildlife conservation, and to our economy;

NOW, THEREFORE, I Bill Lee, Governor of the State of Tennessee, do hereby proclaim September 23, 2023, as

Hunting and Fishing Day

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 twenty-ninth day of August 2023.

Bill Lee

Governor

John R. Cooper

Secretary of State