



STATE OF TENNESSEE

# PROCLAMATION

BY THE GOVERNOR

**WHEREAS**, on National POW/MIA Recognition Day, September 15, 2023, we pay tribute to the American men and women who never returned home from combat and to those who faced unthinkable suffering as prisoners of war in distant lands; and

**WHEREAS**, as a grateful Nation, we can never repay the profound debt to our heroes, and we are committed to accounting for the missing members of our Armed Forces; and

**WHEREAS**, there are nearly 1,400 Tennesseans still missing in action since World War II; and

**WHEREAS**, we demonstrate our deep gratitude and admiration for our brave patriots not in words alone, but by continuing to search for and bring home those missing in action from foreign battlefields; and

**WHEREAS**, the week beginning the third Friday of September and extending through the following Thursday of this year shall be designated as Tennessee POW/MIA Recognition Week in honor of the sacrifices made by citizens who were captured by the enemy or missing in action; and

**WHEREAS**, on September 15, 2023, the POW/MIA flag honoring America's prisoners of war and those missing in action will be flown over the Tennessee State Capitol and other locations across our country as a powerful reminder that our Nation will never cease to recover, remember, and honor the courageous men and women who have served and sacrificed so much for each of us.

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, Bill Lee, Governor of the State of Tennessee, do hereby proclaim the week of September 15-21, 2023 as

*POW/MIA Recognition 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 sixth day of September, 2023.

*Bill Lee*

Governor

*Lee Dargatz*

Secretary of State