



STATE OF TENNESSEE  
**PROCLAMATION**  
BY THE GOVERNOR

**WHEREAS**, each year in the United States more than 15,780 children from birth to 19 years old are diagnosed with cancer, equal to about 42 childhood cancer diagnoses each day; and

**WHEREAS**, approximately one in 285 children in the United States will be diagnosed with cancer before their twentieth birthday, with this number increasing each year; and

**WHEREAS**, each year worldwide, there are more than 300,000 new childhood cancer diagnoses, which equals approximately 1 family every 3 minutes who will hear the words, "Your child has cancer"; and

**WHEREAS**, although the five-year survival rate for childhood cancers has reached 84 percent, nearly 1,500 American children under the age of nineteen still die each year from cancer, making it the leading killer of children by disease; and

**WHEREAS**, the two thirds who survive will face at least one chronic health condition later on in life such as heart, liver, and lung damage; infertility; secondary cancers and growth deficits; and

**WHEREAS**, the causes of childhood cancer are largely unknown and more studies are needed to understand which treatments work best for children; and

**WHEREAS**, cancer treatments for adults often differ from those for children taking into account their developmental needs and other age-related factors;

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

*Childhood Cancer Awareness Month*

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 the fifth day of September 2023.



*Bill Lee*

Governor

*Ju Stargatt*

Secretary of State