



STATE OF TENNESSEE

PROCLAMATION

BY THE GOVERNOR

WHEREAS, each year the state's underground utility infrastructure is jeopardized through unintended damage by those who fail to call 811 to have underground lines located prior to digging, resulting in undesired consequences such as service interruption, damage to the environment, and personal injury or even death; and

WHEREAS, Tennessee 811 and its nearly 600 member utilities promote the "Call Before You Dig" number, 811, in an effort to reduce these damages; and

WHEREAS, designated by the FCC in 2005, 811 provides potential excavators and homeowners a simple number to reach their one call center to request utility line locations at the intended dig site; and

WHEREAS, through education of safe digging practices, excavators and homeowners can save time and money and help keep our state safe and connected by making a simple call to 811 in advance of any digging project, waiting the required amount of time, respecting the marked lines by maintaining a visual definition throughout the course of the excavation, and digging with care around the marks; and

WHEREAS, safe digging is a shared responsibility - to know what's below call 811 before you dig;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Bill Lee, Governor of the State of Tennessee, do hereby proclaim the month of April, 2024 as

Safe Digging 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 fourth day of March, 2024.

Bill Lee

Governor

John R. Dargatzis

Secretary of State