



STATE OF TENNESSEE  
**PROCLAMATION**  
BY THE GOVERNOR

**WHEREAS**, hypertension, also known as high blood pressure, affects nearly half of all adults in the United States and is a leading risk factor for various cardiovascular diseases; and

**WHEREAS**, hypertension often goes undetected and untreated, leading to severe health complications, including heart disease, stroke, and kidney failure, and contributed to nearly 700,000 deaths in the United States in 2021; and

**WHEREAS**, only about one in four adults in the United States have their hypertension under control; Whereas, healthcare costs in the United States associated with hypertension account for about \$131 billion per year, while individuals with hypertension are estimated to face nearly \$2,000 higher annual healthcare expenditures compared to those without hypertension; and

**WHEREAS**, early detection, proper management, and access to medical treatments are critical to reducing the prevalence and impact of hypertension on individuals' health and well-being; and

**WHEREAS**, the month of May is dedicated to raising awareness about hypertension, promoting education about prevention and management, and encouraging individuals to monitor their blood pressure regularly; and

**WHEREAS**, access to affordable and quality healthcare services, including medical treatments, is crucial for managing hypertension and improving health outcomes; and

**WHEREAS**, community initiatives, healthcare professionals, and advocacy organizations play a vital role in educating the public, providing resources, and advocating for policies that enhance hypertension awareness and access to medical care;

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

*Hypertension 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 thirteenth day of May, 2024.

*Bill Lee*

Governor

*Ju Dargatzis*

Secretary of State