



STATE OF TENNESSEE
PROCLAMATION

BY THE GOVERNOR

WHEREAS, charter schools are public schools that increase learning opportunities for all students and provide families with expanded choices within the public school system; and

WHEREAS, there are 115 charter schools operating in Tennessee, serving more than 44,000 students; and

WHEREAS, charter schools serve as beacons of innovation and produce effective models of education, of significance to all public schools; and

WHEREAS, many charter schools are designed specifically to serve children from traditionally underserved communities; and

WHEREAS, charter schools have made gains in accelerating the closing of the achievement gap for those underserved populations, increasing the graduation rate and improving college readiness; and

WHEREAS, charter schools offer a variety of learning environments and emphases, including college-preparedness, career & technical education, arts, and sciences; and

WHEREAS, charter schools play an integral role in Tennessee's public education system, the communities in which they operate, the families they serve, and the students' lives they impact; and

WHEREAS, Tennessee dedicated \$15 million for charter school facility improvements across the state in Fiscal Year 2025; and

WHEREAS, during Charter Schools Week, the State of Tennessee joins charter school organizations, including the Tennessee Charter School Center, and millions of students, parents, educators, leaders, schools, and organizations around the country in celebrating the accomplishments and contributions of charter schools to public education; and

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Bill Lee, Governor of the State of Tennessee, do hereby proclaim the week of May 12-18, 2024, as

Charter Schools 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 fourteenth day of May, 2024.

Bill Lee
Governor

Lucretia Engatt
Secretary of State