



STATE OF TENNESSEE  
**PROCLAMATION**  
BY THE GOVERNOR

**WHEREAS**, treatment courts have been restoring lives and families for more than three decades; and

**WHEREAS**, there are currently 92 treatment courts across Tennessee including Adult Drug Court, Adult Mental Health Courts, Veterans Treatment Courts, Family and Juvenile Drug Courts, DUI/DWI Courts, and a Human Trafficking Court; and

**WHEREAS**, the number of treatment courts in Tennessee has risen greatly in recent years as the General Assembly and State of Tennessee have invested in this important work, and judges, public defenders, prosecutors, and court staff have partnered together to create new Mental Health Courts to serve their communities; and

**WHEREAS**, treatment courts save an average of \$6,000 for every individual they serve; and

**WHEREAS**, treatment courts significantly improve substance use disorder treatment outcomes, behavioral health outcomes, substantially reduce addiction and related crime, and do so at less expense than any other criminal justice strategy; and

**WHEREAS**, treatment courts improve education, employment, housing, and financial stability, promote family reunification, reduce foster care placements, and increase the rate of addicted mothers delivering babies who are fully drug free; and

**WHEREAS**, treatment courts facilitate community-wide partnerships, bringing together public safety and public behavioral health providers networks; and

**WHEREAS**, treatment courts demonstrate that when one person rises out of substance use, mental illness and crime, we all rise;

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

*Treatment Court 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 twenty-third day of May, 2024.

*Bill Lee*

Governor

*Joe Hargett*

Secretary of State