



STATE OF TENNESSEE
PROCLAMATION
BY THE GOVERNOR

WHEREAS, the history of the State of Tennessee has been strongly influenced by our Native American Indian tribes; and

WHEREAS, the contributions of the American Indians have enhanced the freedom, prosperity, and greatness of our state and nation; and

WHEREAS, their customs and traditions are respected and celebrated as a part of a rich legacy throughout the United States that must be protected and preserved; and

WHEREAS, Native American Awareness Week began in 1976 and recognition was expanded by Congress and approved by President George H.W. Bush in August 1990; designated the month of November as National American Indian Heritage Month; and

WHEREAS, an Act by the Tennessee General Assembly, TCA § 15-2-106, specifies that the fourth Monday in September of each year is to be observed as "American Indian Day" in Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, in honor of National American Indian Heritage Month, community celebrations as well as numerous cultural, artistic, educational and historical activities have been planned; and

WHEREAS, these observances are encouraged to be honored by Tennesseans with suitable ceremony and fellowship;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Bill Lee, Governor of the State of Tennessee, do hereby proclaim September 23, 2024 as "American Indian Day" and November 2024 as

Native American Heritage 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-ninth day of July 2024.

Bill Lee

Governor

Joe Vargo

Secretary of State