



STATE OF TENNESSEE  
**PROCLAMATION**

BY THE GOVERNOR

**WHEREAS**, ovarian cancer is the fifth leading cause of cancer deaths among women in Tennessee and causes more deaths than any other gynecologic cancer; and

**WHEREAS**, in Tennessee, a woman's lifetime risk of being diagnosed with ovarian cancer is about 1 in 113; and

**WHEREAS**, the American Cancer Society estimates 19,680 cases of ovarian cancer will be newly diagnosed in 2024 and 12,740 women will die from the disease nationwide, including 380 new cases and 300 deaths in Tennessee; and

**WHEREAS**, the five-year survival rate for ovarian cancer in Tennessee is 48 percent and survival rates vary greatly depending on the stage of diagnosis; and

**WHEREAS**, there is not currently an effective diagnostic tool for screening and early detection does not exist; and

**WHEREAS**, too many people remain unaware that the symptoms of ovarian cancer often include bloating, pelvic or abdominal pain, difficulty eating or feeling full quickly, urinary symptoms, and several other vague symptoms that are often easily confused with other diseases; and

**WHEREAS**, improved awareness of the symptoms of ovarian cancer by the public and health care providers can lead to a quicker diagnosis; and

**WHEREAS**, the lack of an early detection test for ovarian cancer combined with its vague symptoms mean that approximately 80 percent of cases of ovarian cancer are detected at an advanced stage;

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

*Ovarian Cancer 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 second day of August 2024.

*Bill Lee*

Governor

*Joe Mangot*

Secretary of State