



STATE OF TENNESSEE  
**PROCLAMATION**  
BY THE GOVERNOR

**WHEREAS**, the role of the ombuds originated over 200 years ago in Sweden, designated as a government official charged with advocating on behalf of citizens with complaints or problems with the government; and

**WHEREAS**, today's ombuds are confidential, independent, and impartial conflict management professionals who work to address individual and systemic issues outside of and complementary to formal channels such as human resources, grievances, complaints, and legal action; and

**WHEREAS**, ombuds work in a wide variety of organizations worldwide, including universities and colleges, governments at all levels, healthcare institutions, corporations, financial institutions, for profit and not-for-profit organizations, the media, and international organizations; and

**WHEREAS**, ombuds programs provide a valuable form of alternative dispute resolution (ADR) and significant value to the constituents and institutions they serve, and are an essential supplement to formal conflict management processes that address allegedly inappropriate or wrongful conduct; and

**WHEREAS**, recognition of this day is an opportunity to increase awareness and understanding of the profession, highlight the value ombuds bring to the organizations and constituents they serve, and encourage the greater use of ombuds programs;

**NOW THEREFORE**, I, Bill Lee, Governor of the State of Tennessee, do hereby proclaim October 10, 2024 as

*Ombuds Day*

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 fifth day of September 2024.

*Bill Lee*

Governor

*Julie Dargatzis*

Secretary of State