



STATE OF TENNESSEE  
**PROCLAMATION**  
BY THE GOVERNOR

**WHEREAS**, seventy-eight of Tennessee's ninety-five counties are considered rural; and

**WHEREAS**, rural communities are often faced with difficulties such as healthcare provider shortages, transportation barriers, and an aging population suffering from chronic conditions; and

**WHEREAS**, residents of rural communities are resilient, resourceful, innovative, and approach local challenges in a collaborative way with creative solutions; and

**WHEREAS**, rural Tennessee is ideal for dedicated health professionals to deliver essential health-related services and provide comprehensive, individualized care; and

**WHEREAS**, by increasing awareness of the unique healthcare needs of Tennessee's rural population and highlighting the "Power of Rural" campaign we hope to honor those who focus on improving the health rural communities;

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, Bill Lee, Governor of the State of Tennessee do hereby proclaim November 16, 2024, as

*Rural Health 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 seventeenth day of September 2024.

*Bill Lee*

Governor

*Joe Mangott*

Secretary of State