



STATE OF TENNESSEE
PROCLAMATION
BY THE GOVERNOR

WHEREAS, domestic violence is a pressing issue that affects individuals and families throughout the state of Tennessee, transcending geographical, cultural, and socio-economic boundaries; and

WHEREAS, the impact of domestic violence can be devastating, causing physical, emotional, and psychological harm to survivors, their families, and the community at large; and

WHEREAS, according to the TBI's 2023 Crime in Tennessee report, there were 60,184 domestic violence incidents reported, 88 people murdered in a domestic violence incident, and over 19,000 children, women, and men who sought shelter from domestic violence; and

WHEREAS, survivors of domestic violence demonstrate immense courage and resilience in seeking safety and rebuilding their lives, and they deserve our unwavering support and respect; and

WHEREAS, victims of violence should have access to medical and legal services, counseling, transitional housing, and other supportive services so that they can escape the cycle of abuse; and

WHEREAS, the state of Tennessee and the Office of Criminal Justice Programs demonstrates its commitment by allocating more than \$15,000,000.00 in FY2023 to domestic violence service providers through 119 grants; and

WHEREAS, it is important to recognize the compassion and dedication of the individuals who provide services to victims of domestic violence and work to increase public understanding of this significant problem; and

WHEREAS, Tennessee's dedicated organizations, advocates, law enforcement agencies, and service providers tirelessly work to support survivors, hold perpetrators accountable, and create safer environments for all;

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

Domestic Violence 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 seventeenth day of September 2024.

Bill Lee

Governor

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Secretary of State