



STATE OF TENNESSEE  
**PROCLAMATION**  
BY THE GOVERNOR

**WHEREAS**, congenital heart defects are the most common birth defect in the United States, with nearly one in one hundred babies born each year with a heart defect; and

**WHEREAS**, advances and innovations in pediatric cardiology have increased long-term survival of children born with congenital heart defects; and

**WHEREAS**, for more than a decade, the number of adults with congenital heart defects exceeds the number of children with congenital heart defects, and this number continues to grow exponentially; and

**WHEREAS**, congenital heart disease requires lifelong specialized cardiac care; and

**WHEREAS**, it is crucial that individuals planning a family, fetal clinicians, obstetric physicians, pediatricians, and all those in the medical field have a greater understanding of the potential for congenital heart defects; and

**WHEREAS**, Congenital Heart Defect Awareness Week provides the opportunity for patients and families affected by this condition to share their experiences and knowledge, so that the general public may be aware of how this defect affects our lives;

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, Bill Lee, Governor of the State of Tennessee, do hereby proclaim February 7-14, 2025, as

*Congenital Heart Defect Awareness Week*

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-third day of January 2025.



*Bill Lee*

Governor

*Jo Ann W. Dargatzis*

Secretary of State