



STATE OF TENNESSEE

# PROCLAMATION

BY THE GOVERNOR

**WHEREAS**, 250 years ago, on April 19, 1775, the American Revolutionary War began in the colony of Massachusetts where "the shot heard round the world" was fired at Lexington and Concord, marking the first stand in the fight for independence and the birth of a nation founded on liberty and self-governance; and

**WHEREAS**, the battle between British Regulars and colonial militia further sparked the flame of rebellion throughout the American colonies and territories, inspiring all Americans to stand against tyranny and fight for independence; and

**WHEREAS**, the brave colonial settlers and militia in western North Carolina, which would become the Territory of the United States South of the Ohio River and then the state of Tennessee, joined in the fight against British oppression, risking their lives throughout the War for Independence, most notably at the Battle of King's Mountain; and

**WHEREAS**, these brave men and women fighting against tyranny, known as patriots, risked their lives, fortunes, and sacred honor in the pursuit of freedom, laying the foundation for the United States of America; and

**WHEREAS**, the citizens of Tennessee cherish the freedoms and rights established by our nation's founders and patriots; and

**WHEREAS**, it is fitting to reflect upon and celebrate the freedoms secured through their struggle, to educate future generations about the values of perseverance and unity, and to reaffirm our commitment to upholding these ideals;

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, Bill Lee, Governor of the State of Tennessee, do hereby proclaim April 19, 2025 as

*Patriot 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 seventh day of April 2025.

*Bill Lee*

Governor

*Jeffrey B. Matthews*

Secretary of State