



STATE OF TENNESSEE
PROCLAMATION
BY THE GOVERNOR

WHEREAS, the State of Tennessee recognizes the increasingly significant role technology plays in our daily lives, and the crucial support it provides for critical infrastructure sectors; and

WHEREAS, the rise in malicious cyberattacks, ransomware, and other cybercrimes, affect individuals, businesses, and government entities alike; and

WHEREAS, advances in Artificial Intelligence (AI) are transforming cyberspace, creating both opportunities and risks, as malicious actors exploit AI to develop more convincing phishing schemes, deepfakes, and automated cyberattacks; and

WHEREAS, the State of Tennessee also recognizes the importance of harnessing AI and other emerging technologies to strengthen defenses, detect threats, and protect our information systems and critical infrastructure; and

WHEREAS, ensuring the security of cyberspace is a shared responsibility, requiring a collaborative effort between government, industry, academia, and individual citizens; and

WHEREAS, individuals and organizations are encouraged to adopt practical habits that strengthen digital security, including using passwords that are strong and long with a password manager, turning on multi-factor authentication (MFA) on all accounts that offer it, recognizing and reporting phishing attempts, and updating software regularly to ensure the latest security patches are installed.

WHEREAS, Tennesseans are further encouraged to remain alert to the use of AI-generated misinformation and synthetic media, to think critically about the information they encounter online, and to seek trusted sources for digital content; and

WHEREAS, cultivating a skilled cybersecurity workforce-including expertise in AI and emerging technologies-is essential to the State's continued safety, resilience, and economic growth;

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

Cybersecurity 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 tenth day of September 2025.

Bill Lee

Governor

Ju Dargatzis

Secretary of State