



STATE OF TENNESSEE
PROCLAMATION
BY THE GOVERNOR

WHEREAS, Tennessee has prioritized academic gains for students over the past decade, continuing under this administration with the foundational goals outlined in the Tennessee Literacy Success Act; and

WHEREAS, Tennessee's districts, schools, teachers, elected officials, students, parents, and education stakeholders understand the importance and impact of supporting early literacy; and

WHEREAS, Tennessee is aligning educator preparation practices to foundational literacy skills, including phonemic awareness, phonics, fluency, vocabulary, and comprehension while providing new educators with supports to teach these essential skills; and

WHEREAS, Tennessee is committed to accelerating student learning by investing more than seven million dollars in low-ratio, high-dosage tutoring, ensuring that all students receive individualized and targeted instruction that meets their diverse needs; and

WHEREAS, Tennessee is committed to providing comprehensive support for students from Pre-K through grade 12 in developing the foundational reading principles that enable strong reading and writing skills, through the Literacy Materials Implementation Support Grant, investing close to five million dollars to support districts in this critical work; and

WHEREAS, Tennessee continues to invest in resources and supports to ensure our early learners and their families are given every opportunity to become strong readers from the start of kindergarten through third grade, including summer learning programs to help students reach reading proficiency; and

WHEREAS, Tennessee is committed to enhancing literacy rates, recognizing that reading is fundamental for all citizens and serves as the cornerstone of a prosperous state and future;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Bill Lee, Governor of the State of Tennessee, do hereby proclaim March 2026 as

Literacy 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 twenty-fourth day of February 2026.

Bill Lee

Governor

Joe Wargatt

Secretary of State