



STATE OF TENNESSEE

# PROCLAMATION

BY THE GOVERNOR

**WHEREAS**, the State of Tennessee recognizes that it has a vital role in identifying, protecting its citizens from, and responding to cybersecurity threats that may have significant impact to our individual and collective safety and privacy; and

**WHEREAS**, critical infrastructure sectors are increasingly reliant on information systems and technology to support financial services, energy, telecommunications, transportation, utilities, health care, and emergency response systems; and

**WHEREAS**, cybersecurity education and awareness is crucial for everyone, including large corporations, small businesses, financial institutions, schools, government agencies, the home user, and anyone who connects to the internet; and

**WHEREAS**, monitoring your accounts, being conscientious of what you share online, keeping computer software up to date, creating unique passwords and changing them regularly, installing anti-virus programs and firewalls, and using mobile devices safely are ways you can protect yourself from phishing, viruses, malware, and loss of sensitive data; and

**WHEREAS**, the STOP. THINK. CONNECT. Campaign serves as the national cybersecurity public awareness campaign, implemented through a coalition of private companies, nonprofit, government organizations, and academic institutions working together to increase the public's understanding of cyber threats and empowering Americans to be safer and more secure online; and

**WHEREAS**, the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) Cybersecurity Workforce Framework has been developed as a free resource to help organizations (both large and small, public and private) improve their cybersecurity practices through a practical approach to addressing the ever evolving cybersecurity threats and challenges; and

**WHEREAS**, maintaining the security of cyberspace is a shared responsibility in which each of us has a critical role to play, and awareness of computer security essentials will improve the security of State of Tennessee's information, infrastructure, and economy; and

**WHEREAS**, the State of Tennessee Cybersecurity Advisory Council was established to enhance and protect the State of Tennessee's cybersecurity ecosystem; and

**WHEREAS**, the Federal Government of the United States of America, the U.S. Department of Homeland Security's Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency ([www.cisa.gov](http://www.cisa.gov)), the Multi-State Information Sharing and Analysis Center (<http://msisac.cisecurity.org>), the National Association of State Chief Information Officers ([www.nascio.org](http://www.nascio.org)), and the National Cyber Security Alliance ([www.staysafeonline.org](http://www.staysafeonline.org)) all recognize October as National Cybersecurity Awareness Month; and all citizens are encouraged to visit these websites, along with [tn.gov/finance/strategic-technology-solutions/strategic-technology-solutions/sts-security-policies/security-awareness.html](http://tn.gov/finance/strategic-technology-solutions/strategic-technology-solutions/sts-security-policies/security-awareness.html) and the STOP. THINK. CONNECT. Campaign website ([www.stopthinkconnect.org](http://www.stopthinkconnect.org)) to learn about cybersecurity to put that knowledge into practice in their homes, schools, workplaces, and businesses;

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, Bill Lee, Governor of the State of Tennessee, do hereby proclaim October 2021 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 sixteenth day of August, 2021.

Handwritten signature of Bill Lee in blue ink.

Governor

Handwritten signature of Je Hargett in blue ink.

Secretary of State

