



STATE OF TENNESSEE  
**PROCLAMATION**

BY THE GOVERNOR

**WHEREAS**, National Domestic Violence Awareness Month is recognized each October through educational events, community gatherings, and support groups as stated by National Today; and

**WHEREAS**, 1 in 4 women and 1 in 7 men have experienced some form of physical violence by an intimate partner in the United States; and

**WHEREAS**, 1 in 15 children are exposed to intimate partner violence each year in the U.S., and 90% of these children are eyewitnesses to this violence; and

**WHEREAS**, 72% of all murder-suicides involve an intimate partner in the U.S.; 94% of the victims of these murder suicides are female; and

**WHEREAS**, there were 69,385 domestic violence incidents reported in 2020 in Tennessee; and

**WHEREAS**, on a typical day, there are more than 20,000 phone calls placed to domestic violence hotlines nationwide; and

**WHEREAS**, 90 people were murdered in Tennessee in 2020 in a domestic violence incident; and

**WHEREAS**, victims of violence should have access to medical and legal services, counseling, transitional housing, and other supportive services so that they can escape the cycle of abuse; and

**WHEREAS**, it is important to recognize the compassion and dedication of the individuals who provide services to victims of domestic violence and work to increase public understanding of this significant problem; and

**WHEREAS**, local programs, state coalitions, national organizations, and other agencies nationwide are committed to increasing public awareness of domestic violence and its prevalence, and to eliminating it through prevention and education; and

**WHEREAS**, our State has a moral obligation to work to prevent domestic violence and to address its brutal and destructive effects; and

**NOW THEREFORE**, I, Bill Lee, Governor of the State of Tennessee, do hereby proclaim October 2021 as

*Domestic Violence 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 twentieth day of September, 2021.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Bill Lee".

Governor

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Jo Hargett".

Secretary of State

