



STATE OF TENNESSEE
PROCLAMATION

BY THE GOVERNOR

WHEREAS, since the first arrival of Jewish immigrants to the United States in the 16th century, the Jewish people have played a central role in the creation, growth, freedom, prosperity, and strength of our country and the State of Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, the biblical and contemporary history of the Jewish people and the enduring values of the Jewish faith were vital sources of inspiration for the founding of the United States and many of our Country's most central tenets; and

WHEREAS, through core Jewish beliefs such as the creation of man in the image of God, the inherent value of every human life, the need for a weekly Sabbath, and the importance of education in the lives of children, the Jewish community has helped to define America's character and values; and

WHEREAS, the United States was the first country in the world to recognize the State of Israel in 1948; and

WHEREAS, our country and Tennessee have developed a deep friendship and unbreakable alliance with the State of Israel based upon shared values and mutual interests; and

WHEREAS, since October 7, 2023, the Nation of Israel and Jewish people around the world have faced unspeakable persecution and a rise in antisemitism, and Tennessee remains committed to shining a light on the atrocities Israeli people have endured while standing in unwavering solidarity with the Jewish community; and

WHEREAS, Jewish Americans have made significant contributions to the arts, entertainment, science and technology, government, business, culinary traditions, and other fields in the United States, Jewish Americans have played an important role in shaping American culture; and

WHEREAS, for 43 years, every President of the United States has declared a period of time for celebrating the contributions to the United States of the Jewish community's history, heritage, and culture, and since 2006, the month of May has been Presidentially declared to be Jewish American Heritage Month, pursuant to a bipartisan resolution of Congress;

NOW THEREFORE, I, Bill Lee, Governor of the State of Tennessee, do hereby proclaim May 2024 as

Jewish American Heritage 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 second day of May 2024.

Bill Lee

Governor

Ju Knight

Secretary of State