



STATE OF TENNESSEE
PROCLAMATION

BY THE GOVERNOR

WHEREAS, throughout all periods of history for both the State of Tennessee and the United States, women have served proudly as citizens and as public servants both unofficially and formally in their efforts to secure and preserve the freedom of all; and

WHEREAS, women have proudly served informally since the inception of the United States Military and most honorably for the State of Tennessee, notable dates include the Army Nurses Corps 1901; Women Armed Services Integration Act June 12, 1948; Combat jobs open to women December 3, 2015; and

WHEREAS, women have also served honorably and with valor, specifically from the time of the American Revolutionary War, the Civil War, both World Wars, the Vietnam and Korean Wars and in more modern times Operation Iraqi Freedom and Operation Enduring Freedom and through this year are still participating in current worldwide conflicts; and

WHEREAS, a significant number of women have served this country, topping over 350,000 during World War II serving in all functional areas of war. Some became captured and held as POWs, while others made the ultimate sacrifice; and

WHEREAS, women continued throughout the mid-1990s to fight for the right to serve their country, and the State of Tennessee recognizes and respects the contributions that they have made through centuries of faithful service; and

WHEREAS, the State of Tennessee has over 40,000 women veterans who have served this Country and State with courageous, honorable military service and continue to serve their communities, schools, businesses and religious institutions; and

WHEREAS, Tennessee is proud of and appreciates the service of all women veterans by designating June 12, 2020, as "Women Veterans Appreciation Day" to highlight the growing presence of women in the entire Armed Forces and recognize the service and sacrifice of Women Veterans who have served valiantly on behalf of the State of Tennessee and the United States;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Bill Lee, Governor of the State of Tennessee, do hereby proclaim June 12, 2020 as

Women Veterans Appreciation Day

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 thirteenth day of January, 2020.

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

Governor

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

Secretary of State

