



STATE OF TENNESSEE
PROCLAMATION

BY THE GOVERNOR

WHEREAS, inadequate or unbalanced nutrition, known as malnutrition, is prevalent in many groups, including hospitalized patients, minority populations, and older adults; and

WHEREAS, illness, injury, and malnutrition can result in the loss of lean body mass, leading to complications that impact good patient health outcomes, including recovery from surgery, illness, or disease; and

WHEREAS, disease-related malnutrition is a highly prevalent form of malnutrition; and

WHEREAS, over 2 million hospital stays involve malnutrition per year, and approximately 15,000 hospital patients with malnutrition go undiagnosed each day; and

WHEREAS, malnourished patients have approximately two times longer hospital stays compared to patients without malnutrition and face a higher 30-day hospital readmission; and

WHEREAS, malnourished patients are twice as likely to be admitted with a serious infection; and

WHEREAS, studies have found that malnourished patients have higher hospital costs and a higher in-hospital mortality rate than patients without malnourishment; and

WHEREAS, approximately twenty percent of older adults in the community have malnutrition; and

WHEREAS, malnutrition is associated with more complications and falls, and plays a role in cognitive deterioration, decreased functional capacity, and decreased quality of life; and

WHEREAS, screening, assessment, diagnosis, and intervention are key to addressing malnutrition;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Bill Lee, Governor of the State of Tennessee, do hereby proclaim the week of September 18-September 22, 2023, as

Malnutrition Awareness Week

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, 2023.

Bill Lee

Governor

Lucretia

Secretary of State