



STATE OF TENNESSEE

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, a recent survey of Tennessee students showed that 35,000 children between the ages of twelve and seventeen had reportedly used drugs in the last month (Teenage Drug Use Statistics 2021 Data and Trends on Abuse – National Center for Drug Abuse Statistics); and

WHEREAS, nine out of ten people with substance abuse started using drugs by age eighteen; and

WHEREAS, approximately 203,000 Tennesseans between the ages of eighteen to twenty-five stated in the same survey that they had used drugs in the last month; and

WHEREAS, in 2020, Tennessee reported 3,091 confirmed fatal drug overdoses, and another thirty-seven deaths remain unconfirmed and under investigation, according to the Center for Disease Control and Prevention's latest overdose data; and

WHEREAS, it is not whether drugs are legal or illegal, prescribed, or bought on the street that determines the ability to make smart choices regarding drug use; and

WHEREAS, no one, especially a young person, likes to be lectured about what he or she can or cannot do; thus, the Foundation for a Drug-Free World, its Tennessee chapter, volunteers, and educators are engaging in drug education activities this October, both in person and via online courses, providing the facts that empower youth to choose not to take drugs in the first place; and

WHEREAS, the Foundation for a Drug-Free World and its local chapter, Drug-Free Tennessee, are celebrating their fifteenth anniversary this October;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Cameron Sexton, Speaker of the House of Representatives of the One Hundred Twelfth General Assembly of the State of Tennessee, at the request of and in conjunction with Representative Harold M. Love, Jr., do hereby proclaim that we join with the Foundation for a Drug-Free World and Drug-Free Tennessee as they observe October 30, 2021, as "Truth About Drugs Day" in Tennessee and commend this exemplary organization on the occasion of its fifteenth anniversary.

PROCLAIMED in Nashville, Tennessee, on this
the 13th day of October 2021.



A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "C. Sexton".

SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Harold M. Love, Jr.".
HAROLD M. LOVE, JR., REPRESENTATIVE
58TH HOUSE DISTRICT