

# Proclamation

by

Andy Beshear  
Governor

of the

Commonwealth of Kentucky



*To All To Whom These Presents Shall Come:*

- WHEREAS, Tuberculosis (TB) is a potentially fatal disease caused by the bacillus *Mycobacterium tuberculosis*, which usually attacks the lungs, but can attack any part of the body, such as the kidneys, spine, and brain; and
- WHEREAS, While curable, TB remains a global health problem and is a leading killer of people with HIV; and
- WHEREAS, Among infectious diseases, TB is a leading killer of adults, with 1.23 million TB-related deaths globally in 2024 and the United States reporting eight percent more cases in 2024 than in the previous year; and
- WHEREAS, TB, including multidrug-resistant cases, remains a threat to our Commonwealth, with 70 cases preliminarily reported in Kentucky in 2025; and
- WHEREAS, Completing treatment is crucial to eliminating both active TB disease and latent TB infection, and raising awareness is imperative for the prevention and eventual elimination of the disease; and
- WHEREAS, World TB Day will be observed around the globe on March 24, 2026, to commemorate the date in 1882 when Dr. Robert Koch announced his discovery of *Mycobacterium tuberculosis*;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, ANDY BESHEAR, Governor of the Commonwealth of Kentucky, do hereby proclaim March 2026, as

## TUBERCULOSIS AWARENESS MONTH

in Kentucky, and urge all citizens of the Commonwealth to become aware of this infectious disease and the importance of eliminating it.



Done in the City of Frankfort on the 2<sup>nd</sup> day of March, in the year of Our Lord Two Thousand Twenty-Six and in the 234<sup>th</sup> year of the Commonwealth.

*Andy Beshear*

ANDY BESHEAR  
GOVERNOR

*Michael G. Adams*

Michael G. Adams  
Secretary of State