

# 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 *Mycobacterium tuberculosis*, which usually attacks the lungs, but can attack any part of the body, such as the kidney, spine and brain; and
- WHEREAS, The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention reports that, annually, 10.8 million people around the world become sick with TB disease. Among infectious diseases, TB is a leading killer of adults in the world, with 1.25 million TB-related deaths in 2023; in 2023, the United States reported 9,633 cases of TB disease, a 15.6% increase compared with 2022; and
- WHEREAS, Tuberculosis, including multidrug-resistant cases, remains a burden in Kentucky despite significant progress towards its elimination, with 89 cases reported in 2024; and
- WHEREAS, Although it is curable, TB remains a global health problem and is a leading killer of HIV-infected people; 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, 2025, to commemorate the date in 1882 when Dr. Robert Koch announced his discovery of *Mycobacterium tuberculosis*, the bacillus that causes TB;


NOW, THEREFORE, I, ANDY BESHEAR, Governor of the Commonwealth of Kentucky, do hereby proclaim March 2025, as

## TUBERCULOSIS AWARENESS MONTH

in Kentucky, and urge all citizens of the Commonwealth to become aware of this infectious disease and the challenge of its prevention.

DONE AT THE CAPITOL, in the City of Frankfort the 18<sup>th</sup> day of February, in the year of Our Lord Two Thousand Twenty-Five and in the 233<sup>rd</sup> year of the Commonwealth.

  
ANDY BESHEAR  
GOVERNOR

  
Michael G. Adams  
Secretary of State

