



## Department of Economic and Community Development

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Stuart McWhorter  
Commissioner

Bill Lee  
Governor

September 8, 2022

Dear Sir/Madam,

I would like to formally invite you to join me and the Tennessee delegation for the 44<sup>th</sup> Annual Joint Meeting of the Southeast U.S.-Japan Association & Japan-U.S. Southeast Associations in Orlando, Florida on November 16-19, 2022.

Please join Team Tennessee and me to further support this longstanding tradition which has continued for over four decades. For those of you who have responded to the invite sent out by the Japan-America Society of Tennessee (JAST) and have already made plans to attend this year, thank you.

Japanese companies are the foreign direct investment (FDI) leaders of Tennessee, both by job creation and investment. With over 200 Japanese-owned establishments based in Tennessee, they have created over 53,300 jobs for Tennesseans and have invested over \$20 billion in our state.

Tennessee and Japan share a special bond that has only strengthened over the years. Our great partnership is reflected in the countless business achievements between our great state and the esteemed country of Japan. This meeting serves as a moment to celebrate those successes and continue to cultivate the valued relationships that have been formed throughout the years. Furthermore, this meeting is an opportunity to reinforce our ties among the seven southeastern member states and build new relationships.

Our partners at JAST are assisting with registration and answering any questions about the meeting and can be reached at (615) 663-6060 or [jastinfo@jastn.org](mailto:jastinfo@jastn.org). Information about the meeting and the registration page can be found at <https://japanamericasocietyoftennesseeinc.wildapricot.org/event-4922812>.

I look forward to seeing you in Orlando in November.

Sincerely,

Stuart McWhorter  
Commissioner

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