



STATE OF TENNESSEE
PROCLAMATION

BY THE GOVERNOR

WHEREAS, Sam Houston is one of the most prominent figures in the history of the State of Tennessee and the United States of America; and

WHEREAS, while he was young, Houston's family moved westward to Tennessee and settled in the Blount County community of Maryville; and

WHEREAS, he interacted and lived with Cherokee communities on several occasions throughout his life, and developed an appreciation for Native Americans and became an advocate for their welfare; and

WHEREAS, Houston, whose father served as a commissioned officer during the American Revolution, served this country with valor during the War of 1812, where he was seriously wounded during the Battle of Horseshoe Bend; and

WHEREAS, he sought out knowledge and education, enjoying classical literature, and briefly taught at a school prior to sitting for the bar examination; and

WHEREAS, he began his public life in elected office in 1818 when he was elected to serve Nashville as the prosecuting attorney; and

WHEREAS, a close ally and supporter of fellow Tennessean Andrew Jackson, Houston was elected in 1822 to the U.S. House of Representatives and served as the seventh Governor of Tennessee from 1827-1829; and

WHEREAS, after his service in the House, Houston made his way to the land that would, thanks largely to his leadership, one day be known as the State of Texas; and

WHEREAS, he distinguished himself in public and military service among the people of Texas and was elected to the Presidency of the Republic of Texas on two occasions, leading this territory into the United States of America; and

WHEREAS, many prominent localities and institutions bear his name, including Houston County, Tennessee, Houston, Texas, the fourth largest city in the U.S., Sam Houston State University in Huntsville, Texas, and Sam Houston Elementary School in Maryville; and

WHEREAS, on March 19, 2016, citizens from near and far will gather in Maryville to dedicate a statue befitting this most distinguished Tennessean;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Bill Haslam, Governor of the State of Tennessee, do hereby proclaim March 19, 2016 as

Sam Houston Day

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 fourteenth day of March, 2016.

Bill Haslam

Governor

Lee Pugh

Secretary of State