



STATE OF TENNESSEE
PROCLAMATION
BY THE GOVERNOR

WHEREAS, Krabbe disease, also known as globoid cell leukodystrophy, is a degenerative disorder that affects the nervous system and is caused by a shortage of the galactosylceramidase enzyme; and

WHEREAS, this enzyme deficiency impairs the growth and maintenance of myelin, the protective covering around certain nerve cells that ensures the rapid transmission of nerve impulses; and

WHEREAS, in the United States, Krabbe disease affects about one in 100,000 individuals; in Israel, six cases per 1,000 individuals have been reported in a few isolated communities; and

WHEREAS, symptoms of Krabbe disease usually develop in babies before they are six months old and typically include irritability, muscle weakness, feeding difficulties, episodes of fever without any sign of infection, stiff posture, and slowed mental and physical development; and

WHEREAS, most parents do not find out their child has Krabbe disease until it is too late, as the disease usually results in death by age two; and

WHEREAS, there is no cure for Krabbe disease, and treatment focuses on supportive care. Infants who are treated before the onset of symptoms and some older children and adults have experienced some success; and

WHEREAS, dedicating a day to recognize Krabbe disease brings attention to this rare, but fatal, disease;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Bill Haslam, Governor of the State of Tennessee, do hereby proclaim September 1, 2016 as

Krabbe Awareness 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 fourth day of March, 2016.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Bill Haslam".

Governor

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Joe Ray".

Secretary of State

