



STATE OF TENNESSEE
PROCLAMATION
BY THE GOVERNOR

WHEREAS, this year the National Park Service is celebrating 100 years of stewardship of America's national parks and engaging communities through recreation, conservation, and historic preservation programs; and

WHEREAS, Tennessee is home to twelve national park properties, with visitors contributing over \$571 million to the state's economy through visits to unique treasures such as the Great Smoky Mountains National Park

WHEREAS, national parks help to safeguard Tennessee's natural and cultural heritage, protecting 46 threatened and endangered species, 13 National Natural Landmarks, 30 National Historic Landmarks, and 1,439 archaeological sites; and

WHEREAS, in recognition of our state's rich history and the importance of preserving it for future generations, the National Park Service has awarded Tennessee \$32,268,639 in historic preservation grants since 1969, and facilitated \$617,710,894 of historic rehabilitation projects through tax incentives since 1995; and

WHEREAS, since 1965, the National Park Service has partnered with communities in Tennessee and provided \$75,202,721 in Land and Water Conservation Fund grants to create and maintain a legacy of high quality public outdoor recreation opportunities; and

WHEREAS, the National Park Service works in communities through education programs and community assistance projects, carrying out 46 community conservation and recreation projects in our state since 1987; and

WHEREAS, the National Park Service Centennial goal is to connect with and nurture the next generation of park visitors, supporters, and advocates, including encouraging individuals and families to take advantage of our Country's natural wonders and iconic sites as part of the "Find Your Park" initiative;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Bill Haslam, Governor of the State of Tennessee, do hereby proclaim April 16-24, 2016 as

National Park Week

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 twenty-fourth day of March, 2016.

Bill Haslam

Governor

Lee Hargett

Secretary of State