



STATE OF TENNESSEE
PROCLAMATION
BY THE GOVERNOR

WHEREAS, muscular dystrophy is not a single disease or disorder that effects everyone the same way but an umbrella term covering more than 52 different types of muscular and neuromuscular diseases ranging in severity; and

WHEREAS, all muscular dystrophies result in progressive muscle weakness, from mild muscle weakness to complete paralysis of all voluntary muscles, including those used for breathing and/or swallowing; and

WHEREAS, more than one million individuals in the United States are affected by one of the different types of muscular dystrophy; and

WHEREAS, muscular dystrophy strikes people regardless of race, sex, age or ethnicity; and

WHEREAS, some persons with MD enjoy a normal life span with mild symptoms that progress very slowly; others experience swift and severe muscle weakness and wasting, dying in their late teens to early twenties; and

WHEREAS, raising public awareness of these diseases will continue to facilitate the discovery of treatments and cures; and

WHEREAS, there is not yet a cure for Muscular Dystrophy, so it is a race against the clock for so many suffering from this disease;

WHEREAS, Muscular Dystrophy Awareness month and Light it Up Green for MD month is a special opportunity to educate the public about muscular dystrophy and issues in the muscular dystrophy community;

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

Muscular Dystrophy Awareness Month

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 twentieth day of April, 2016.

Bill Haslam

Governor

Joe Vogel

Secretary of State