



STATE OF TENNESSEE  
**P R O C L A M A T I O N**  
BY THE GOVERNOR

**WHEREAS**, more than sixty years ago, President Harry S. Truman supported devoting a day where all branches of the United States Military were recognized as one body which led to the announcement by Secretary of Defense Louis Johnson, in 1949, of the establishment of Armed Forces Day to replace separate Army, Navy, Marine Corps, and Air Force Days; and

**WHEREAS**, Preparedness of Soldiers, Marines, Sailors, Airmen, and Coast Guardsmen was celebrated and our Nation's Armed Forces were deemed to be recognized on the third Saturday of May from then on; and

**WHEREAS**, with the veteran population in Tennessee now totaling over 500,000 let us use this day as one to pay special tribute to our heroes preserving America's ideals with their decision to serve; and

**WHEREAS**, brave men and women continue to follow in the footsteps of previous generations who stepped forward to defend our homeland since our Nation's founding and to protect the liberty of our friends and allies; and

**WHEREAS**, this day will hopefully inspire all Tennesseans to learn more about what sacrifices our military members make serving around the globe, and honor them accordingly; and

**WHEREAS**, Tennessee recognizes that we are indebted to the men and women who continue to make reality our unalienable Rights of Life, Liberty and the Pursuit of Happiness;

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, Bill Haslam, Governor of the State of Tennessee, do hereby proclaim Saturday, May 21, 2016 as

*Armed Forces 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 twenty-first day of April, 2016.

*Bill Haslam*

Governor

*Joe Hargett*

Secretary of State