



STATE OF TENNESSEE

PROCLAMATION

BY THE GOVERNOR

WHEREAS, the strategic position of Normandy would play an incredible role in driving the Axis powers from France; and

WHEREAS, five main landing areas, "Utah, Omaha, Gold, Juno and Sword" were stormed by Allied troops made up of British, Canadian, and American Divisions; more than 150,000 troops, 5,000 ships and landing crafts were utilized in the procurement of the heavily fortified beaches and the progress inland; and

WHEREAS, under General Eisenhower's command, the men and women of the "Greatest Generation" wrote one of the most inspiring chapters in our Nation's history; and

WHEREAS, as Franklin Roosevelt called all to prayer the night before the Normandy beach invasion and reminded that they "fight not for the lust of conquest. They fight to end conquest. They fight to liberate", 20,000 paratroopers silently sailed into enemy territory to support the next day's mission; and

WHEREAS, more than 9,000 Americans never returned to their loved ones and homeland. The ultimate sacrifice they made delivered other countries from oppression and fear; and

WHEREAS, we forever remember and honor the Soldiers, Marines, Sailors and Airmen who selflessly volunteered to go to war in order to protect the ideals America was founded on;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Bill Haslam, Governor of the State of Tennessee, do hereby proclaim June 6, 2016 as

D-Day Remembrance 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 third day of May, 2016.

Bill Haslam

Governor

Joe Hargett

Secretary of State