



STATE OF TENNESSEE

PROCLAMATION

BY THE GOVERNOR

WHEREAS, Williams syndrome is a rare genetic condition that is present at birth, affects as many as 30,000 individuals in the United States and is characterized by medical and cognitive problems, including cardiovascular disease, developmental delays, and learning disabilities; and

WHEREAS, the Williams Syndrome Association (WSA), founded in 1982, is a non-profit organization and the most comprehensive resource for people and families living with Williams syndrome as well as for doctors, researchers and educators. Through its efforts, from raising public awareness, to funding critical new research, and providing valuable information and support to families, the WSA has improved the quality of life and futures of those affected by Williams syndrome; and

WHEREAS, to generate awareness about Williams syndrome and raise funding for critical WSA programs and initiatives, the WSA has organized May as Williams Syndrome Awareness Month which includes events all across the United States; and

WHEREAS, the Williams Syndrome Association and the families and friends of those with Williams syndrome should be commended for their hard work, compassion, and courage for educating the country about this rare disorder;

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

Williams Syndrome 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 sixteenth day of May, 2016.



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

Governor

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "J. R. Hight".

Secretary of State