



STATE OF TENNESSEE

PROCLAMATION

BY THE GOVERNOR

WHEREAS, it is believed that a Philadelphian seamstress, by the name of Betsy Ross, was commissioned with the task to sew together the first American flag in June of 1776; and

WHEREAS, from its humble beginnings, the United States Flag was a source of comfort, inspiration, and encouragement to those countrymen looking upon it. So much so that in 1916, President Woodrow Wilson officially established June 14th as Flag Day; and

WHEREAS, finally in August of 1949 through an Act of Congress, June 14th was declared National Flag Day; and

WHEREAS, our flag has accompanied many as they celebrate hometown football games, walk on the moon, or defend our country overseas. We remember and honor our service members who have stood under the American flag and fostered the justice and hardiness that it represents; and

WHEREAS, in 1812, the sight of "Old Glory" flying over Fort Mchenry after the British bombardment of the fort during the War of 1812, inspired Francis Scott Key to pen a poem that later became our Nation's anthem; and

WHEREAS, let us honor this day by displaying the American flag at homes and public buildings; and

WHEREAS, we allow our Nation's flag to inspire our daily lives and remind us that we are Americans living in the land of the free;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Bill Haslam, Governor of the State of Tennessee, do hereby proclaim June 14, 2016 as **Flag Day** and the week of June 13-17, 2016 as

Flag 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 seventeenth day of May, 2016.



Bill Haslam

Governor

Joe R. Wright

Secretary of State