



STATE OF TENNESSEE

PROCLAMATION

BY THE GOVERNOR

WHEREAS, Charcot-Marie-Tooth (CMT) is the most common inherited peripheral neuropathy disorder, affecting approximately 1 in 2,500 people worldwide, including around 2,500 people in Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, CMT is characterized by a slow and progressive degeneration of the muscles in the foot, lower leg, and forearm, extending to weakness in the hands and loss of muscle tone; and

WHEREAS, Vanderbilt University Medical Center is now designated as the Center for Excellence on CMT with patients coming from Kentucky, Indiana, Alabama, Georgia, Mississippi, Arkansas, Louisiana and North Carolina; and

WHEREAS, the past year has brought significant strides through the Charcot-Marie-Tooth Association (CMTA) STAR (Strategy to Accelerate Research) Initiative's research and development of therapies for CMT, including an additional research grant given to Belmont University for research on treatments; and

WHEREAS, through an innovative public-private partnership combining the National Institutes of Health and university laboratories with expertise in peripheral nerve biology, scientists have identified candidate drugs with the potential to begin human clinical trials for the treatment of the most common type of CMT; and

WHEREAS, the purpose of the CMTA is to provide grassroots support for local citizens facing the daily challenges of living with CMT; and

WHEREAS, CMTA branches are located in two Tennessee cities, encouraging local members of the community to rally around their neighbors and make a commitment to educating the public about CMT;

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

Charcot-Marie-Tooth 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 twenty-eighth day of January, 2016.

Handwritten signature of Bill Haslam in blue ink.

Governor

Handwritten signature of the Secretary of State in blue ink.

Secretary of State

