

## STATE OF TENNESSEE

## PROCLAMATION

## BY THE GOVERNOR

WHEREAS, all cattle and calves are Tennessee's #2 farm commodity generating 19.5 percent of the state's \$4.3 billion agricultural cash receipts; and

WHEREAS, nationally, Tennessee ranks 11<sup>th</sup> in the number of farms and 12<sup>th</sup> in the number of beef cows, with a total inventory of 1.83 million head of cattle and calves; and

WHEREAS, the state of Tennessee recognizes the important contributions of our state's 43,000 cattle producers; and

WHEREAS, cattle are among the most efficient means of converting forage to human food on Tennessee's more than five million acres of pasture and hay and thereby contribute to the conservation of soil by allowing those acres to remain in grasses and legumes; and

WHEREAS, beef provides a valuable source of high quality protein, as well as numerous vitamins and minerals important to a healthful diet; and

WHEREAS, the state of Tennessee recognizes the economic and nutritional value of beef promotion and beef consumption to the enjoyment and good health of our citizens;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Bill Haslam, Governor of the state of Tennessee, do hereby proclaim July, 2016, as

Beef Month

in Tennessee and encourage all citizens to join me in this worthy observance.

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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 June, 2016.

Governor

Secretary of State