



STATE OF TENNESSEE

# PROCLAMATION

BY THE GOVERNOR

**WHEREAS**, thousands of brave Tennesseans have demonstrated their courage and commitment to freedom by serving in the Armed Forces of the United States, both on active duty and in the Tennessee National Guard and Reserves; and

**WHEREAS**, while Tennessee is the seventeenth largest state demographically, it is the sixth largest National Guard state, and the fourth most deployed National Guard state in the last ten years; and

**WHEREAS**, there are over 40,000 children and youth with at least one parent stationed in Tennessee who is on Active Duty, in the National Guard, or in the Reserves; and

**WHEREAS**, military children and families provide stability and comfort on the home front, without which our service members could not fulfill their missions; and

**WHEREAS**, children and youth of our service members continue to make significant contributions to family, schools, communities, our state, and the nation, despite prolonged and repeat absences of one or both parents; and

**WHEREAS**, these children are a source of pride and honor to us all, and it is only fitting that we take the time to recognize their contributions, celebrate their spirit, and let our men and women in uniform know that while they are taking care of us, we are taking care of their children;

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, Bill Haslam, Governor of the State of Tennessee, do hereby proclaim April, 2012, as

## MILITARY CHILD 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 27th day of March, 2012.

Governor

Secretary of State