



STATE OF TENNESSEE

PROCLAMATION

BY THE GOVERNOR

WHEREAS, up to a 8.5 million Americans suffer from peripheral artery disease (PAD), a potentially life threatening disease where plaque builds up along blood vessel walls, narrowing the arteries and reducing blood flow to the legs and feet; and

WHEREAS, Each year between 160,000-180,000 Americans undergo amputation of a limb as a result of complications associated with peripheral artery disease (PAD); and an estimated 12 to 20% of Americans over 60 has PAD and Americans with diabetes over 50 are at especially high risk for PAD; and

WHEREAS, Peripheral Artery Disease Awareness Month is observed every September in the United States by health experts, health advocates, and individuals concerned with vascular and arterial health; and

WHEREAS, Designating a month for the issue serves the purpose of increasing public awareness of peripheral artery disease; educating about the risk factors and symptoms of PAD; providing information about PAD screening; encouraging people to talk to their healthcare professional; informing citizens about physicians and healthcare facilities that specialize in limb salvage; educating people about treatment options and alternatives to amputation; and sharing stories of PAD's impact on citizens and how treatment can relieve symptoms and help them live more fulfilling lives; and

WHEREAS, citizens commemorated PAD awareness month with the "Take A Stand Against Amputation presents Nashville Sings Gospel Concert" hosted by Grammy-winning Gospel Great, Tennessee native, and PAD Awareness Ambassador Dr. Bobby Jones on September 17, 2016, in the city of Nashville;

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

Peripheral Artery Disease (PAD) 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 thirtieth day of September, 2016.

Handwritten signature of Bill Haslam in blue ink.

Governor

Handwritten signature of Julie Kuntz in blue ink.

Secretary of State

