



STATE OF TENNESSEE

PROCLAMATION

BY THE GOVERNOR

WHEREAS, a fateful Sunday morning in 1941 swiftly brought the United States into World War II. Fighting to defend our nation and the inalienable rights of fellow persons across the globe, our country responded after Imperial Japanese forces launched a surprise attack on Pearl Harbor; and

WHEREAS, December 7th will forever be a “date which will live in infamy” as then President Franklin Delano Roosevelt expressed, as America removed itself from isolation and joined forces to fight a War overseas; and

WHEREAS, explosions shook the small island of Oahu, machine gun fire tore through airplanes and ships, and torpedoes and bombs accelerated toward battleships. Survivors remember the names of their fallen friends and flames licking the wreckage of vessels in the Harbor; let us stand with them and their memories as we commemorate the 75th anniversary of the attack on Pearl Harbor; and

WHEREAS, December 7th, by Public Law 103-308, was designated as “National Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day” in 1994; and

WHEREAS, we recall the more than 3,500 who were killed or wounded, especially those still lying in the USS Arizona Memorial, on this day of solemnity for their service and sacrifice to their country, as well as the Pearl Harbor survivors that had to continue to fight and defend, in spite of the horrors burned into their memories; and

WHEREAS, responding to the worst naval disaster in America's history, her Armed Forces and civilians alike rose to the call to serve. May we pass along to future generations the sacrifices that were made so that they may live in this land of the free, and home of the brave;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Bill Haslam, Governor of the State of Tennessee do hereby proclaim December 7, 2016, as

Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day

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 eighteenth day of November, 2016.

Bill Haslam

Governor

Julie R. Hight

Secretary of State