



STATE OF TENNESSEE
PROCLAMATION
BY THE GOVERNOR

WHEREAS, Meetings Industry Day draws attention to the value of meetings to people, businesses, and communities; and

WHEREAS, the meetings industry as a whole has a substantial impact on the economy, local businesses, and residents in Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, specifically, the Tennessee Department of Tourist Development reported in August 2016 that each of the 95 counties in Tennessee saw more than \$1 million of tourism-related economic impact in the year 2015; and that employment saw an increase of over 157,000 jobs in the year 2015, which is higher than the national growth of travel related employment; and

WHEREAS, nationally, the meetings industry creates hundreds of thousands of jobs, generates billions of dollars of revenue and supports communities across the country; and

WHEREAS, hosting an event, convention, or tradeshow stimulates this region's economy by bringing in new visitors who stay in our hotels, eat in our restaurants, shop in neighborhood stores and bring new revenue; and

WHEREAS, industry professionals across Tennessee will join forces to advocate for the meetings industry by participating in an event sponsored by the International Live Events Association Nashville, Meeting Professionals International Tennessee, Tennessee Business Travel Association, Tennessee Society of Association Executives, and the Tennessee Society of Government Meeting Professionals on April 6, 2017 in Nashville, Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, Meetings Industry Day is a time for Tennesseans to reflect on the importance of the meetings industry and what it has provided for our state; and

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Bill Haslam, Governor of the State of Tennessee, do hereby proclaim April 6, 2017 as

Meetings Industry 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 ninth day of March, 2017.

Bill Haslam

Governor

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Secretary of State