



STATE OF TENNESSEE  
**PROCLAMATION**  
BY THE GOVERNOR

**WHEREAS**, Tennesseans with disabilities contribute vitality, dedication, skills, abilities and their individual talents to our collective workforce;

**WHEREAS**, Tennessee Department of Human Services (TDHS) Vocational Rehabilitation Counselors conduct assessments, provide counseling, assist families, plan and implement rehabilitation programs and establish relationships with businesses to best serve Tennesseans with disabilities;

**WHEREAS**, Vocational Rehabilitation Counselors use Rehabilitation Counseling knowledge and ingenuity to work closely with vocational rehabilitation clients in helping them achieve and maintain their career goals;

**WHEREAS**, the economic independence, self-reliance and personal pride that results from employment positively impacts not only the individual with a disability but also their family, workplace and communities;

**WHEREAS**, Vocational Rehabilitation Counselors are actively serving more than 9,000 Tennesseans with disabilities in achieving their employment goals, and in state fiscal year 2016 assisted more than 2,200 reach their career goal;

**WHEREAS**, Vocational Rehabilitation Counselors partner with federal, state, and community partners to further the range of services and maximize opportunities for people with disabilities; and

**WHEREAS**, nationally Vocational Rehabilitation Counselors are being recognized for their work in service to individuals with disabilities;

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, Bill Haslam, Governor of the State of Tennessee do hereby proclaim March 22, 2017 as

*Vocational Rehabilitation  
Counselor Appreciation 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 twenty-second day of March, 2017.

A blue ink signature of Bill Haslam, Governor of Tennessee.

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Governor

A blue ink signature of Julie Haydt, Secretary of State of Tennessee.

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Secretary of State

