



STATE OF TENNESSEE
PROCLAMATION
BY THE GOVERNOR

WHEREAS, in 1949, under President Harry S. Truman, Secretary of Defense Louis Johnson announced the establishment of Armed Forces Day to replace separate Army, Marine Corps, Navy, Air Force and Coast Guard days;

WHEREAS, as of January 2017, the strength of our active duty Armed Forces totaled 1,333,240 in the Army, Marine Corps, Navy, Air Force and Coast Guard; and

WHEREAS, these men and women who make up this number have not only chosen a career in the military but find their vocation as protectors, as defenders, and as patriots in preserving our citizens' freedoms and liberties; and

WHEREAS, from the island of Guam to Camp Lejeune in North Carolina, the Ramstein Air Base in Germany to Fort Campbell here in Tennessee, though spread far and wide, let us take the opportunity to thank and honor those who are serving in our Armed Forces; and

WHEREAS, we also recognize those who are currently serving in National Guard and Reserve units, at the ready to provide support at a moment's notice; and

WHEREAS, from the members of the Continental Army to those in our military today, the members of our military have never failed the United States of America and their devotion to duty will continue to inspire and move our Nation with gratitude, especially today as we celebrate them;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Bill Haslam, Governor of the State of Tennessee, do hereby proclaim Saturday, May 20, 2017 as

Armed Forces 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 thirteenth day of April, 2017.

Bill Haslam

Governor

Lee Hargitt

Secretary of State