



STATE OF TENNESSEE
PROCLAMATION
BY THE GOVERNOR

WHEREAS, the brain directs involuntary actions like breathing, blinking, thinking, and swallowing, it also controls our senses, personality, memory, walking, talking, toileting, and profoundly impacts both the ability for life, and quality of life, for the patient and caregiver; and

WHEREAS, a primary brain tumor (meaning the tumor originates in the brain) diagnosis does not discriminate; it can afflict men, women, and children of all races and ethnicities; and

WHEREAS, it has changed the lives of over 700,000 people in the United States who are living with primary malignant and non-malignant brain tumors; and an estimated 17,000 Americans will die due to a malignant brain tumor in 2017; and

WHEREAS, a metastatic brain tumor (meaning the primary tumor originates in another part of the body and spreads to the brain) diagnosis also does not discriminate; it can afflict men, women, and children of all races and ethnicities; and

WHEREAS, an estimated 200,000-300,000 Americans are diagnosed with metastatic brain tumors in the US each year, which are far more common than primary malignant brain tumors; and

WHEREAS, as a brain tumor profoundly impacts the lives of patients and caregivers, it is imperative we increase public awareness of this disease, its life altering impact, and its treatment options, through research, advocacy programs, and education programs, as well as generate a call to action in support of finding a cure; and

WHEREAS, Tennessee is home to major brain tumor treatment and research centers like Vanderbilt Brain Tumor Center of the Vanderbilt-Ingram Cancer Center, Sarah Cannon Cancer Institute at TriStar Health and the Sarah Cannon Research Institute, St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, St. Thomas Health, and the University of Tennessee, whose programs focus on the care of brain tumor patients and research to find better treatments, a cure for brain tumors, and a higher quality of life for brain tumor patients; and

WHEREAS, one of the most important things a brain tumor patient can do is to surround themselves with doctors dedicated to brain tumor specialty treatments and care and aggressively seek education and support for themselves and their caregivers through local organizations like the Southeastern Brain Tumor Foundation or national organizations like the American Brain Tumor Association and the National Brain Tumor Society in efforts to generate a greater awareness of this disease, to uncover resources and services, and to band together to spearhead and advance treatments, research and support;

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

Brain Tumor 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 twenty-first day of April, 2017.

Bill Haslam

Governor

Joe Wargot

Secretary of State