WHEREAS, the State of Tennessee is the largest employer in the State, whose employees provide many essential services to our citizens to ensure Tennessee continues to be the best place to live, work, and raise a family; and

WHEREAS, the success of the State of Tennessee depends on the dedication and effectiveness of State employees, who exemplify the true picture of a 'Tennessee Volunteer' through volunteer activities outside official business and into retirement years while maintaining the day-to-day operation of government, and servicing and caring for the citizenry and resources of this State; and

WHEREAS, Tennessee’s State employees demonstrate visionary leadership and commitment as they preserve public safety, administer justice, defend natural resources, engage visitors and commerce, build and maintain our infrastructure, cultivate emerging leaders through higher education, safeguard vulnerable populations, support our Veterans, promote public health, and manage countless other critical duties with which they have been entrusted by the citizens of Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, these state employees have earned nation-wide acclaim for innovation, integrity, and achievement in support of the State of Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, it is appropriate to set aside a day to honor and commend the tireless efforts of these state employees, who are often forgotten and ignored, and allow them to be duly recognized by the citizens of the State; and

WHEREAS, Tennessee is privileged to join other States across the nation on May 10, 2017, to express appreciation and gratitude to state employees for their outstanding service;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Bill Haslam, Governor of the State of Tennessee, do hereby proclaim May 10, 2017 as State Employee Recognition 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-sixth day of April, 2017.

Governor

Secretary of State