



STATE OF TENNESSEE
PROCLAMATION
BY THE GOVERNOR

WHEREAS, it is estimated that 6.5 million people currently live with chronic wounds and that number is expected to continue to grow. The rising incidence is fueled by an aging population and increasing rates of diseases and conditions such as diabetes, peripheral artery disease, obesity and the late effects of radiation therapy; and

WHEREAS, untreated chronic wounds can lead to diminished quality of life and possibly amputation of the affected limb; the chronic wound epidemic represents a cost of more than \$25 billion to the healthcare system; and

WHEREAS, more than 29.1 million people have diabetes in the United States (US) and many of those people will develop a diabetic foot ulcer or other non-healing wound; advanced wound care aims to prevent amputations and heal patients in a faster and more cost-effective way; and

WHEREAS, awareness and education about chronic wounds will benefit current and future chronic wound patients; and

WHEREAS, the goal of Wound Care Awareness Week is to inform patients, their families, clinicians and the general public about the importance of advanced wound care and its ability to save lives and limbs;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Bill Haslam, Governor of the State of Tennessee, do hereby proclaim June 4-10, 2017 as

Wound Care Awareness Week

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 May, 2017.

Handwritten signature of Bill Haslam in blue ink.

Governor

Handwritten signature of Lee Sizemore in blue ink.

Secretary of State

