



STATE OF TENNESSEE
PROCLAMATION
BY THE GOVERNOR

WHEREAS, established by an act of the 101st Congress in August of 1990, on the third Friday of every September we honor and remember the men and women of our Nation's Armed Forces that remain Missing In Action and those who are or have been Prisoners of War; and

WHEREAS, designed by WWII Veteran, Newton F. Heisley, the POW/MIA flag is flown over various buildings at all levels of government and by private citizens; and

WHEREAS, inspired by the strength of the men and women who have endured great suffering, we pledge our commitment and loyalty to those patriots and to their families who still wish for closure in finding their loved ones; and

WHEREAS, according to the Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency, there are 1,421 Tennesseans missing and unaccounted for in 2017, these patriots are from all branches of the Armed Forces and all conflicts; and

WHEREAS, as a State we rejoice, especially during this POW/MIA Recognition Week, at the welcome home of the forty two Tennesseans formerly Missing in Action, two of which returned home in 2017; and

WHEREAS, freedom will never taste as sweet to us who are protected, but to those who have fought and almost died for it while facing our enemies, they surely know the goodness of it: let us never be naïve to the cost of our freedoms;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Bill Haslam, Governor of the State of Tennessee, do hereby proclaim September 11 through September 17, 2017, as

POW/MIA Recognition 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 seventh day of August, 2017.

Bill Haslam

Governor

Lee Dugitt

Secretary of State