



STATE OF TENNESSEE  
**PROCLAMATION**  
BY THE GOVERNOR

**WHEREAS**, Tennessee Week for the Animals is a community-strengthening opportunity to recognize the important role that animals play in our lives; and

**WHEREAS**, during the week, lives of companion animals will be saved through numerous adoption events and by spay-neuter opportunities; and

**WHEREAS**, during the week, activities will provide information about adopting pets from animal shelters, responsible pet ownership, low cost vaccinations and services, and volunteering in the community; and

**WHEREAS**, during the week, supporting organizations will be at hospitals and assisted living homes, bringing joy to the patients who benefit from animal-assisted therapy; and

**WHEREAS**, during the week, READ dogs will be at numerous libraries offering assistance to youth who benefit from these special therapy animals;

**NOW, THEREFORE** I, Bill Haslam, Governor of the State of Tennessee, do hereby proclaim the week of September 23 through October 1, 2017 as

*Tennessee Week for the Animals*

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-fifth day of August, 2017.

*Bill Haslam*

Governor

*Lee Vargitt*

Secretary of State