



STATE OF TENNESSEE
PROCLAMATION
BY THE GOVERNOR

WHEREAS, in 2015, traffic crashes caused 35,092 fatalities and 2.44 million injuries, which was an increase of 7.2% over the previous year; and

WHEREAS, an average of 96 people died each day in motor vehicle crashes in 2015, one fatality every 15 minutes; and

WHEREAS, traffic crashes in Tennessee last year killed 1,038 people; and

WHEREAS, approximately one-half of all motorists killed in vehicle crashes in Tennessee in 2016 were unrestrained; and

WHEREAS, alcohol-impaired driving crashes in Tennessee accounted for over one-fourth of all traffic fatalities in Tennessee in 2015; and

WHEREAS, distracted driving is a dangerous epidemic on America's roadways with 3,477 people killed and an estimated 391,000 injured in motor vehicle crashes involving distracted drivers in 2015; and

WHEREAS, the use of cost-effective roadway safety improvements such as all-weather signing and markings, traffic signals, skid resistant pavements, and removal of roadside hazards could also greatly reduce the number of traffic crashes; and

WHEREAS, the continued development of safer vehicles and protective safety equipment for motorcycles (such as helmets) will enhance people's ability to protect themselves and their families from preventable and tragic permanent injuries and deaths;

WHEREAS, law enforcement officers play an important role in keeping our roads and highways safe; and

WHEREAS, the use of safe driving behaviors such as not talking or text messaging on cell phones, not drinking and driving, using seat belts and helmets (bicycles and motorcycles), and obeying traffic laws would dramatically reduce the number of traffic-related injuries and deaths;

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

"Put the Brakes on Fatalities" 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 thirtieth day of August, 2017.

Handwritten signature of Bill Haslam in blue ink.

Governor

Handwritten signature of Sue Dargatzis in blue ink.

Secretary of State

