

## STATE OF TENNESSEE

## PROCLAMATION

## BY THE GOVERNOR

WHEREAS, the health and safety of all residents of Tennessee is important to the happiness, prosperity, and well-being of our state's families and communities; and

WHEREAS, in 2017, the American Cancer Society estimates there will be 12,820 women diagnosed with cervical cancer nationwide and 4,210 will die from the disease; and

WHEREAS, regular cervical cancer screening tests are an effective way to detect the disease early, when it can still be successfully treated; and

WHEREAS, HPV vaccines are now widely available, and combined with regular screenings, they provide an effective means of preventing the disease; and

WHEREAS, in the past 40 years, the number of cases and deaths from cervical cancer decreased significantly due to screening and prevention efforts; and

WHEREAS, each case of cervical cancer is a tragedy that devastates patients and their loved ones; and

WHEREAS, increasing awareness of prevention and early detection techniques among patients and healthcare providers is a key component in safe-guarding cervical health; and

WHEREAS, throughout the month of January, organizations and healthcare practitioners are encouraged to promote awareness about cervical cancer and to support patients currently battling cervical cancer and those who have lost loved ones to this disease;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Bill Haslam, Governor of the State of Tennessee, do hereby proclaim January, 2018 as

Cervical Health Awareness Month

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 fourteenth day of December, 2017.

Governor

Secretary of State