



STATE OF TENNESSEE
PROCLAMATION
BY THE GOVERNOR

WHEREAS, Abraham Lincoln was born February, 12, 1809 in a one-room log cabin near Hodgenville, Kentucky; and

WHEREAS, Abraham Lincoln began his political career in the Illinois House of Representatives in 1834; and

WHEREAS, Abraham Lincoln was elected the sixteenth President of the United States in 1860; and

WHEREAS, Lincoln was the first President to run under the banner of the Republican Party, formed just a few years earlier for the purpose of preventing the expansion of the monstrous institution of slavery to the nation's new territories and future states; and

WHEREAS, Abraham Lincoln led the United States through the Civil War, demonstrating enduring faith and steady resolve that the nation would be reunited; and

WHEREAS, on January 1, 1863, Abraham Lincoln issued the Emancipation Proclamation, an important milestone in our country's journey towards the abolition of slavery through the thirteenth Amendment to the United States Constitution; and

WHEREAS, Abraham Lincoln succeeded in preserving the Union, ensuring that a free Government of the people, by the people, and for the people, shall not perish from the earth; and

WHEREAS, in his second inaugural address, President Lincoln expressed his commitment to reunite our country in peace by stating "With malice toward none, with charity for all, with firmness in the right as God gives us to see the right, let us strive on to finish the work we are in, to bind up the nation's wounds, to care for him who shall have borne the battle and for his widow and his orphan, to do all which may achieve and cherish a just and lasting peace among ourselves and with all nations"; and

WHEREAS, Tennessee Code requires that the Governor proclaim February 12 of each year as "Abraham Lincoln Day";

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Bill Haslam, Governor of the State of Tennessee, do hereby proclaim February 12, 2018 as

Abraham Lincoln 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 fifth day of January, 2018.

Bill Haslam

Governor

Julie Bergatt

Secretary of State

