



STATE OF TENNESSEE
PROCLAMATION
BY THE GOVERNOR

WHEREAS, the United States Surgeon General has stated that smoking remains the single most preventable cause of premature death in our society; and

WHEREAS, cigarette smoking and exposure to secondhand smoke account for 480,000 deaths each year in the United States, including the deaths of 11,400 Tennesseans; and

WHEREAS, 5.6 million people under age 18 alive today will ultimately die from smoking unless smoking rates decline, with 125,000 of those deaths occurring among Tennesseans; and

WHEREAS, productivity losses caused by smoking each year equal \$151 billion in the U.S. and \$3.6 billion in Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, quitting smoking greatly reduces the risk of developing smoking-related diseases; and

WHEREAS, "It's Quittin' Time in Tennessee" is a campaign to promote the importance of and resources for quitting smoking in Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, dedicating a week to promote smoking cessation will encourage tobacco users to call the Tennessee Tobacco Quit Line and make a quit plan;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Bill Haslam, Governor of the State of Tennessee, do hereby proclaim the week of February 5-9, 2018, as

Tennessee Quit Week

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 tenth day of January, 2018.

Handwritten signature of Bill Haslam in blue ink.

Governor

Handwritten signature of the Secretary of State in blue ink.

Secretary of State

