



STATE OF TENNESSEE
PROCLAMATION
BY THE GOVERNOR

WHEREAS, Tennessee farmers and ranchers help provide food and fiber for the world, fuel our economy, and lead global markets in output and productivity; and

WHEREAS, farming and forestry dominate Tennessee's landscape with 66,600 farms producing and selling crops, livestock, and forest products; and

WHEREAS, forty percent, or 10.8 million acres, of the state's land area is farmland; and

WHEREAS, more than 14 million acres of farm and non-farm forest lands generate about \$300 million annually in timber sales, making Tennessee one of the nation's leading producers of hardwood lumber; and

WHEREAS, agricultural production alone, excluding forest products, generates more than \$3 billion annually in farm cash receipts; and

WHEREAS, Tennessee's top agricultural commodities include cattle and calves, soybeans, broilers, horticultural products, corn, cotton, dairy products, tobacco, hay, tomatoes, eggs, wheat, snap beans, grain sorghum, apples, peaches, farm chickens, squash, goats, and sheep; and

WHEREAS, Tennessee ranks second nationally in the number of meat goats and sixth in the number of equine and also ranks among the top ten states in the production of beef cattle, tobacco, fresh tomatoes and snap beans, hay and cotton; and

WHEREAS, international trade has a significant impact on Tennessee agriculture with exports of raw agricultural products totaling nearly \$1 billion each year; and

WHEREAS, Tennessee's thriving agriculture sector provides jobs across our state, not just for farmers and ranchers, but for scientists, processors, shippers, trucking, and retailers;

NOW THEREFORE, I, Bill Haslam, Governor of the State of Tennessee, do hereby proclaim February 1, 2018 as

Agriculture Trade Awareness 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 seventeenth day of January, 2018.

Handwritten signature of Bill Haslam in blue ink.

Governor

Handwritten signature of Joe DeLoach in blue ink.

Secretary of State

