



STATE OF TENNESSEE

PROCLAMATION

BY THE GOVERNOR

WHEREAS, an estimated 10 million people in the United States - 6 to 8 percent of the population of our country - and millions of people worldwide have been diagnosed with fibromyalgia, a disease for which there is no known cause or cure; and

WHEREAS, fibromyalgia is a chronic illness, increasing at alarming rates, that causes fatigue and debilitating pain in women, men, and children of all ethnicities; and

WHEREAS, patients with this illness often have to learn to live with widespread pain throughout their bodies, extreme fatigue, sleep disorders, stiffness and weakness, migraine headaches, numbness and tingling, impairment of memory and concentration; and

WHEREAS, it may take years to receive a diagnosis of fibromyalgia, and medical professionals frequently are inadequately educated on the diagnosis and treatment of fibromyalgia; and

WHEREAS, increased awareness and expanded knowledge of the realities of life with fibromyalgia will allow the community at large to better support people who struggle with the challenges of this chronic pain disorder; and

WHEREAS, the fibromyalgia community is urging fibromyalgia patients and their supporters, healthcare providers, and the general public to demonstrate their caring by sharing the road patients walk, the facts about fibromyalgia, and ever-growing awareness about the etiology of this disorder and potential treatments; and

WHEREAS, the community's focus on fibromyalgia and its impact on patients' lives will help guarantee hope for a better future for people with fibromyalgia;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Bill Haslam, Governor of the State of Tennessee, do hereby proclaim May 12, 2012, as

FIBROMYALGIA 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 1st day of May, 2012.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Bill Haslam", written over a horizontal line.

Governor

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Joe Mangott", written over a horizontal line.

Secretary of State

