



STATE OF TENNESSEE  
**PROCLAMATION**  
BY THE GOVERNOR

**WHEREAS**, road construction and road maintenance, performed by construction workers, utility personnel, and maintenance workers, play an essential role in our ability to be a mobile and free nation; and

**WHEREAS**, work zones present a challenge and potential danger to all motorists, and improvements in safety, education and driver behavior will benefit drivers of all ages; and

**WHEREAS**, 946 traffic fatalities occurred on Tennessee's roads and highways in 2011; and

**WHEREAS**, there were 3,059 traffic crashes in Tennessee work zones in 2011; and

**WHEREAS**, 15 people lost their lives in work zone crashes in Tennessee in 2011; and

**WHEREAS**, three workers were killed in work zones in 2011, the most since 2007; and

**WHEREAS**, the most frequently occurring contributing factors to motor vehicle wrecks in construction zones are careless driving, speeding, and failure to obey signs and traffic controls; and

**WHEREAS**, according to NETS, the Network of Employers for Traffic Safety, one teenager is killed and seven are injured in a work zone crash in this country every three days, and studies show young drivers are more likely to be involved in work zone crashes than others, as they are more likely to take risks, be distracted, or be nervous while driving; and

**WHEREAS**, there were 83 teen traffic fatalities in Tennessee in 2011; and

**WHEREAS**, the Tennessee Department of Transportation and the Tennessee Department of Safety make consistent and numerous efforts to improve safety in work zones and all roadways in Tennessee through programs such as Between The Barrels, a teen work zone education program, and the use of communications tools such as Tennessee 511, TDOT SmartWay and TDOT SmartWay Mobile; and

**WHEREAS**, these services provide the citizens of Tennessee with the knowledge they need to safely travel through work zones, protecting themselves as well as the men and women who put their lives at risk each day in work zones across the state;

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, Bill Haslam, Governor of the State of Tennessee, do hereby proclaim the week of April 23-27, 2012 as

## **WORK ZONE AWARENESS WEEK**

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 11th day of May, 2012.

Handwritten signature of Bill Haslam in blue ink.

Governor

Handwritten signature of Joe Ruggitt in blue ink.

Secretary of State

