



STATE OF TENNESSEE

# PROCLAMATION

BY THE GOVERNOR

**WHEREAS**, Williams syndrome is a rare genetic condition that is present at birth, affects as many as 30,000 individuals in the United States and is characterized by medical and cognitive problems, including cardiovascular disease, developmental delays, and learning disabilities; and

**WHEREAS**, the Williams Syndrome Association (WSA), founded in 1982, is a non-profit organization and the most comprehensive resource for people and families living with Williams syndrome as well as for doctors, researchers and educators; and

**WHEREAS**, through its efforts, from raising public awareness, to funding critical new research, and providing valuable information and support to families, the WSA has improved the quality of life and futures of those affected by Williams syndrome; and

**WHEREAS**, to generate awareness about Williams syndrome and raise funding for critical WSA programs and initiatives, the WSA has organized May as Williams Syndrome Awareness Month which includes events all across the United States; and

**WHEREAS**, the Williams Syndrome Association and the families and friends of those with Williams syndrome should be commended for their hard work, compassion, and courage for educating the country about this rare disorder;

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, Bill Haslam, Governor of the State of Tennessee, do hereby proclaim the month of May, 2018 as

## *Williams Syndrome Awareness Month*

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 eighth day of March, 2018.

A blue ink signature of Bill Haslam, the Governor of Tennessee.

Governor

A blue ink signature of Joe Wargitt, the Secretary of State of Tennessee.

Secretary of State

