



STATE OF TENNESSEE  
**PROCLAMATION**  
BY THE GOVERNOR

**WHEREAS**, Harriet Tubman was a leading figure in the movement to abolish slavery; and

**WHEREAS**, she was born around 1822 in Dorchester County, Maryland, on a plantation where her parents were enslaved; and

**WHEREAS**, she escaped from slavery in 1849, at the age of 27; and

**WHEREAS**, Harriet demonstrated great courage and resolve by returning to guide her family to freedom; and

**WHEREAS**, at great risk to her own life, she returned to Maryland thirteen times to rescue over seventy enslaved families and friends; and

**WHEREAS**, she became one of the most prominent conductors on the Underground Railroad; and

**WHEREAS**, after the outbreak of the Civil War, Harriet Tubman served as a nurse in the Union Army, tending to injured soldiers and assisting escaped slaves; and

**WHEREAS**, Harriet Tubman became the first woman to lead an armed assault during the war, freeing more than 750 slaves from a collection of plantations along the Combahee River; and

**WHEREAS**, Harriet Tubman continued her activism in the post-war period, by advocating for women's' suffrage and increased civil rights for African-Americans; and

**WHEREAS**, Tennessee Code Annotated § 15-2-111 requires that the governor proclaim March 15 of each year as "Harriet Tubman Day";

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, Bill Haslam, Governor of the State of Tennessee, do hereby proclaim March 15, 2018 as

*Harriet Tubman 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 twenty-seventh day of April, 2018.

*Bill Haslam*

Governor

*Julie Hargis*

Secretary of State