



STATE OF TENNESSEE

PROCLAMATION

BY THE GOVERNOR

WHEREAS, it is on the Friday before Memorial Day that we recognize the Gold Star Families in our Tennessee communities and honor the memory of their loved ones who died while serving our Nation on military duty; and

WHEREAS, in an instant, a family is thrust into a group in which none wants to lay claim: one defined by selflessness, humility and grace, that of a Gold Star Family; and

WHEREAS, the debt our fallen warriors and their families make is one for which our country can never return or sufficiently express our gratitude, for in their sacrifice, over 308 million Americans enjoy the freedom and liberty on which our country was founded; and

WHEREAS, we recognize the sacrifice that every Gold Star Family has made and will continue to make, living each day with the memory of their loved one in their thoughts; and

WHEREAS, we pray for peace and comfort to come to their hearts as they know that we have etched the name of their fallen Soldier, Marine, Sailor, Airman or Coast Guardsman in our hearts with them; and

WHEREAS, I encourage the people of Tennessee to display the flag and hold appropriate ceremonies as a public expression of our Nation's gratitude and respect for our Gold Star Families;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Bill Haslam, Governor of the State of Tennessee, do hereby proclaim May 25, 2018 as

Gold Star Family 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 fifteenth day of May, 2018.

Bill Haslam

Governor

Julie Kuntz

Secretary of State