



STATE OF TENNESSEE

PROCLAMATION

BY THE GOVERNOR

WHEREAS, Memorial Day was originally called Decoration Day, a day set aside to decorate the graves of both Union and Confederate fallen soldiers with flowers; and

WHEREAS, the loving kindness and compassion shown to the American Civil War dead helped to lay the foundation for Memorial Day; and

WHEREAS, in 1971, the national observance became Memorial Day, to include all men and women who died in service to our country and the United States Congress officially designated the last Monday in May as Memorial Day; and

WHEREAS, every Memorial Day, Tennesseans traditionally take time to remember and to express gratitude to the soldiers, airmen, sailors and Marines who served and paid the supreme sacrifice to secure our future; and

WHEREAS, on this important day, communities across our state will remember the dead of all our nation's wars and express our deepest appreciation by placing flags on graves, by attending ceremonies, and by solemnly reflecting on our indebtedness to the individuals who gave their lives for our freedom; and

WHEREAS, let us continue to preserve the legacy of these heroes and unite in hope that the ideals of peace, freedom and prosperity will brightly shine forever in the hearts and souls of all citizens of this great State and Nation;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Bill Haslam, Governor of the State of Tennessee, do hereby proclaim May 28, 2012 as

MEMORIAL 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 17th day of May, 2012.



A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Bill Haslam".

Governor

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Joe Mangatt".

Secretary of State