



STATE OF TENNESSEE  
**PROCLAMATION**

BY THE GOVERNOR

**WHEREAS**, Tennessee is on a mission to reach 55 percent of Tennesseans equipped with a college degree or certificate by the year 2025; and

**WHEREAS**, the national student loan debt has surpassed \$1.5 trillion, with loan programs composing a substantial amount of the funds on which students rely to finance higher education; and

**WHEREAS**, access to a college savings plan supports degree attainment; and

**WHEREAS**, research shows that students with dedicated savings for college are approximately seven times more likely to attend college than children with no dedicated account; and

**WHEREAS**, the State of Tennessee created the TNStars College Savings 529 Program to encourage Tennessee families to save and invest for the future cost of higher education in a tax-advantaged way; and

**WHEREAS**, the key to successful saving is to begin early; and Families can set their children on a path to success by opening a TNStars account with as little as \$25 to start;

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

*College Savings 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 tenth day of August, 2018.

Handwritten signature of Bill Haslam in blue ink.

Governor

Handwritten signature of Joe Ricketts in blue ink.

Secretary of State