



STATE OF TENNESSEE

PROCLAMATION

BY THE GOVERNOR

WHEREAS, the only men's basketball coach in Tennessee to win a NCAA Championship, legendary Coach Jerry C. Johnson served as head Basketball Coach and Athletic Director at LeMoyne-Owen College for forty-six years and led the Magicians for 1,268 games with 821 wins while mentoring a number of future professional basketball players, doctors, lawyers, politicians, and educators; and

WHEREAS, the Memphis Alumni Chapter of LeMoyne-Owen College will host its JCJ Sports Weekend honoring Coach Johnson from Thursday, June 14 through Saturday, June 16, 2012; and

WHEREAS, celebrating his ninety-fourth birthday on June 20, 2012, Coach Johnson's career is being highlighted in a new film documentary entitled "First Forgotten Champions: The Legacy of Jerry Johnson;" and

WHEREAS, an excerpt from the film will be shown during the birthday celebration along with video tributes and birthday greetings for Coach Johnson, with proceeds from the JCJ Sports Weekend being used to endow the Jerry C. Johnson Scholarship Fund; and

WHEREAS, the film is produced by Morreco Coleman of Daydream Studios and features former players, such as Robert Newman (Most Valuable Player, 1975) and other college alumni, elected officials and community leaders including Jack Collins, Willie Gregory, Willie Herenton, Clint Jackson, Travis King, Larry Lewis, Rickey Means, and Bobby Todd, Memphis Councilman Myron Lowery, Congressman Steve Cohen, Coaches Ben Jobe, John Calipari, Josh Pastner, and Verties Sails, Jr., LeMoyne Owen College Board of Trustees Chairman Robert Lipscomb and College President Johnnie B. Watson, Coach Johnson's daughter Wandra Haywood, his son Jerry Johnson, Jr., and others; and

WHEREAS, in addition to the invitation-only premiere of the film, highlights of JCJ Sports Weekend include renaming the school gymnasium at LeMoyne-Owen College, the JCJ Celebrity Golf Scramble at Tunica National Golf Course in Tunica, Mississippi, the Coaches Clinic, and a culminating event dubbed "Suits and Sneakers Birthday Celebration: It's a Party - Fun...Food...Games" in the C. Arthur Bruce Hall gymnasium at LeMoyne-Owen College; and

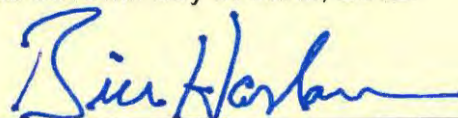
WHEREAS, it is highly appropriate that Tennesseans celebrate such a special event to honor one of Tennessee's most outstanding citizens;

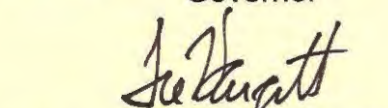
NOW, THEREFORE, I, Bill Haslam, Governor of the State of Tennessee, do hereby proclaim June 20, 2012, as

COACH JERRY C. JOHNSON 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 seventh day of June, 2012.


Governor


Secretary of State

