



STATE OF TENNESSEE
PROCLAMATION
BY THE GOVERNOR

WHEREAS, Veterans have been provided access to education, employment, and opportunity for housing through the original GI Bill, the Servicemen's Readjustment Act, established in 1944 by President Roosevelt; and

WHEREAS, 2.9 million Post 9/11 Veterans have entered higher education after leaving military service nationwide; and

WHEREAS, there are more than 8,300 Student Veterans pursuing their post-secondary goals at campuses statewide in 2018; and

WHEREAS, in fiscal year 2016, Student Veterans used \$279,651,000 in education benefits at Tennessee college campuses to pursue educational goals and certifications; and

WHEREAS, according to the Institute for Veterans and Military Families, 82 percent of Student Veterans made their way through the enlisted ranks before pursuing their higher education; and

WHEREAS, Student Veterans of America reports that nationally 67 percent of Student Veterans are first generation students; and

WHEREAS, in 2017 President Donald Trump signed into law the Harry W. Colmery Veterans Educational Assistance Act of 2017, also known as the Forever G.I. Bill, making significant changes to the Post 9/11 G.I. Bill to ensure success and promote usability by student Veterans;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Bill Haslam, Governor of the State of Tennessee, do hereby proclaim September 23-29, 2018 as

Student Veterans Week

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 twelfth day of September, 2018.

Bill Haslam

Governor

Lee Ward

Secretary of State