

## STATE OF TENNESSEE

## PROCLAMATION

## BY THE GOVERNOR

WHEREAS, elder abuse continues to be a serious problem in our community, affecting thousands of our frail elderly each year; and

WHEREAS, increased public awareness of elder abuse will have a beneficial effect in curbing acts of abuse against elders; and

WHEREAS, Tennessee's seniors are valued members of society and it is our collective responsibility to ensure they live safely and with dignity; and

WHEREAS, abuse of older people is a tragedy inflicted on vulnerable seniors, and an ever-increasing problem in today's society that crosses all socio-economic boundaries; and

WHEREAS, combating abuse of older people will help improve the quality of life for all seniors across this country and will allow seniors to continue to live as independently as possible and contribute to the life and vibrancy of Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, Tennessee's seniors should be treated with respect and dignity to enable them to continue to serve as leaders, mentors, volunteers and important and active members of our community; and

WHEREAS, we are all responsible for building safer communities for Tennessee's seniors; and

WHEREAS, the well-being of Tennessee's seniors is in the interest of all and further adds to the well-being of Tennessee communities;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Bill Haslam, Governor of the State of Tennessee, do hereby proclaim June 15, 2012, as

## **ELDER ABUSE AWARENESS 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 1st day of June, 2012.

Governor

Secretary of State