



STATE OF TENNESSEE

PROCLAMATION

BY THE GOVERNOR

WHEREAS, from its founding in 1867 at Monmouth College in Monmouth, Illinois, the Pi Beta Phi Fraternity for Women was interested in providing altruistic services that improved the lives of those in need; and

WHEREAS, at its June 1910 Pi Beta Phi Convention, members outlined and enthusiastically approved a plan for the establishment of a Pi Beta Phi Settlement School in the Appalachian Mountains in honor of their founders and the 50th anniversary of its inception; and

WHEREAS, beginning in 1912 and over the ensuing decades, Pi Beta Phi, through its Settlement School in Gatlinburg, Tennessee, became the stabilizing force and catalyst to a community whose mountain people were in great need of educational opportunities and healthcare, and suffered abject poverty and difficult living conditions; and

WHEREAS, thanks to the services provided by this Settlement School, Pi Beta Phi Fraternity became the pioneer among women's fraternities in leading one of the great altruistic movements of the time; and

WHEREAS, Pi Beta Phi continued its long and historic dedication to education in the mountains through its philanthropic support to Gatlinburg's Pi Beta Phi Elementary School; and

WHEREAS, the Arrowmont School of Arts and Crafts in Gatlinburg, established in 1967 as Pi Beta Phi's Centennial Project, became one of the contemporary legacies of the Pi Beta Phi Settlement School and has become a nationally renowned center of contemporary arts and crafts education; and

WHEREAS, in 1967 Pi Beta Phi, the only Panhellenic Conference member to adopt its own Canadian philanthropy, began to provide funding for reading materials and programs to three Canadian Territories to promote literacy and preserve native languages; and

WHEREAS, Pi Beta Phi's philanthropic focus on service through education and literacy was expanded in 1990 to support many communities across the United States and Canada, and continues today under the Fraternity's (Read. Lead. Achieve.) initiatives that support its vision: Pi Beta Phi leads the way to a more literate society; and

WHEREAS, it is proper to reflect on and honor the 100 significant years of Pi Beta Phi philanthropy, for it is often in reflection of things past that proper courses are set for the future; and

WHEREAS, the leadership and membership of Pi Beta Phi Fraternity, its friends and citizens of the Gatlinburg community, and the state of Tennessee take pride in the past and appropriately recognize and celebrate 100 years of literacy service;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Bill Haslam, Governor of the State of Tennessee, do hereby proclaim November 3, 2012 as



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PI BETA PHI FRATERNITY 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 11th day of June, 2012.



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

Governor

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Julie Dugitt".

Secretary of State