



STATE OF TENNESSEE

PROCLAMATION

BY THE GOVERNOR

WHEREAS, the seeds of Country Music were sown years ago in the hills and hollows of Tennessee by the same men and women who helped lay the foundation of this great nation; and

WHEREAS, as they sang of their joys and sorrows, their love of family, and their faith, they created a truly American form of music that reflected the experiences of every citizen of the United States; and

WHEREAS, today's Country Music has not only become popular in America, but around the world as well; and

WHEREAS, the worldwide appeal of this uniquely American art form owes much to the efforts of the Country Music Association (CMA) to widen awareness and enjoyment of this format through its Nashville-based CMA Awards, CMA Music Festival, CMA Country Christmas, and CMA Songwriters Series; and

WHEREAS, by helping to finance music education, CMA's "Keep the Music Playing" initiative encourages public school students to enhance their lives through music appreciation and performance; and

WHEREAS, CMA's college initiative, CMA EDU, provides career-building opportunities on college campuses; and

WHEREAS, thanks to these and many other efforts, CMA has helped elevate Country Music into a global phenomenon; and

WHEREAS, the art form remains quintessentially American, uncovering the poetry embedded in everyday life, and celebrating the same traits that inspired those who laid its foundation before us;

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

COUNTRY MUSIC 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 twenty-seventh day of September, 2012.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Bill Haslam".

Governor

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Joe Hargrett".

Secretary of State

