



STATE OF TENNESSEE

# PROCLAMATION

BY THE GOVERNOR

**WHEREAS**, the State of Tennessee believes that small businesses are the backbone of our economy and the glue that holds communities together; and

**WHEREAS**, according to the United States Small Business Administration, there are currently 28 million small businesses in the United States, and small businesses created 65 percent of net new jobs over the past two decades; and

**WHEREAS**, a majority of US consumers agree it is important to support the small businesses they value in their communities, and most are willing to pledge to support for a "Buy Local" small business initiative like Small Business Saturday; and

**WHEREAS**, Tennessee supports our local businesses that create jobs, boost our local economy and preserve our neighborhoods; and

**WHEREAS**, advocacy groups and public and private organizations across the country have endorsed the Saturday after Thanksgiving as Small Business Saturday; and

**WHEREAS**, residents of our community, and communities across the country, are being asked to support small businesses and merchants on Small Business Saturday and throughout the year;

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, Bill Haslam, Governor of the State of Tennessee, do hereby proclaim November 24, 2012, as

## SMALL BUSINESS SATURDAY

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 thirteenth day of November, 2012.



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

Governor

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Joe Wright".

Secretary of State