WHEREAS, perioperative nurses specialize in the care of patients immediately before, during and after surgical intervention; and

WHEREAS, serving in settings ranging from traditional hospital-based operating rooms to ambulatory surgical centers and physicians' offices, perioperative nurses work to provide the safest care possible for surgical patients; and

WHEREAS, perioperative nurses assess individual patient needs prior to surgery, prepare a plan for the care a surgical patient will receive, and prepare the operating room and patient for surgery; and

WHEREAS, surgical patients rely on the skills, knowledge, and expertise of perioperative registered nurses, who uphold a long tradition of improving surgical safety and the quality of patient care; and

WHEREAS, Perioperative Nurse Week recognizes the contribution perioperative registered nurses make to patient safety and the opportunities and challenges facing the profession;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Bill Haslam, Governor of Tennessee, do hereby proclaim November 5-11, 2012 as

**National Perioperative Nurse 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 5th day of November, 2012.

Governor

Secretary of State