



STATE OF TENNESSEE

PROCLAMATION

BY THE GOVERNOR

WHEREAS, Stax Records is one of the most influential music labels in the world, touting such soul music icons as Otis Redding, Isaac Hayes, Booker T. & the MGs, the Staple Singers, Rufus & Carla Thomas, Sam & Dave, and many others; and

WHEREAS, after the company was forced into involuntary bankruptcy in 1975 the original studios were demolished in 1989 leaving only a decrepit, empty lot; and

WHEREAS, the Stax Museum of American Soul Music broke ground on April 20, 2001, and opened its doors on May 2, 2003, at the site as the world's only soul music museum; and

WHEREAS, the Stax Museum of American Soul Music has received hundreds of thousands of visitors from around the world, greatly enhancing the State of Tennessee as an international tourist destination generating millions of dollars for the economy; and

WHEREAS, the Stax Museum of American Soul Music serves as a catalyst for revitalization of the surrounding, historically-rich community known as Soulsville, USA; and

WHEREAS, the Stax Museum of American Soul Music was named the "Most Authentic American Experience in Tennessee" by Time Magazine in 2008 and was cited by National Geographic Traveler Magazine as being at the forefront of a cultural renaissance making Memphis one of the "Best Trips of 2013," the top twenty cities in the world to visit in 2013; and

WHEREAS, the Stax Museum of American Soul Music serves as the window to the world to its Stax Music Academy and The Soulsville Charter School, all of whose combined high school seniors have gone to college since 2008, and proved that a museum can be more than merely a tourist destination, but can help change lives;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Bill Haslam, Governor of the State of Tennessee, do hereby proclaim May 2, 2013, as

STAX MUSEUM 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 second day of January, 2013.

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

Governor

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Joe Mangat".

Secretary of State

