



STATE OF TENNESSEE  
**PROCLAMATION**  
BY THE GOVERNOR

**WHEREAS**, tuberculosis is a leading cause of illness and death worldwide, with nearly nine million new cases and 1.4 million TB-related deaths worldwide in 2011 alone; and

**WHEREAS**, one-third of the world's population is currently infected with Mycobacterium tuberculosis germs and bears the risk of developing active TB disease; and

**WHEREAS**, in 2012, 164 cases of TB were reported in Tennessee, representing an increase of 5.1 percent from the 156 cases reported in Tennessee in 2011; and

**WHEREAS**, as of February 1, 2013, there were 73 persons under treatment in Tennessee with suspected or confirmed active TB disease and another 595 patients on treatment for TB infection; and

**WHEREAS**, Mycobacterium tuberculosis germs are spread from person-to-person through the air, causing a life-threatening disease; and

**WHEREAS**, TB is treatable, curable and preventable; and

**WHEREAS**, the Tennessee Department of Health joins the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the global Stop TB Partnership in adopting the 2013 World TB Day slogan "Stop TB in My Lifetime;" and

**WHEREAS**, the annual worldwide health observances of World TB Day on March 24<sup>th</sup> aim to raise public awareness and increase personal knowledge about TB, a disease which remains a significant public health concern across the United States and in Tennessee;

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, Bill Haslam, Governor of the State of Tennessee, do hereby proclaim March 24, 2013, as

*World TB 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 fifteenth day of February, 2013.

*Bill Haslam*

Governor

*Je Hargett*

Secretary of State