



STATE OF TENNESSEE

PROCLAMATION

BY THE GOVERNOR

WHEREAS, Gold Star Wives of America, Incorporated was founded in 1945 to include widows and widowers of military members who died while serving on active duty or who died as a result of a service-connected disability; and

WHEREAS, Gold Star Wives is a Congressionally Chartered non-profit service organization whose mission is to support Gold Star Wives by offering comfort, friendship, guidance and advocacy to members for military survivor benefits; and

WHEREAS, Eleanor Roosevelt was a member and one of 15 signers of the original Gold Star Wives of America, Inc. papers; and

WHEREAS, sometimes referred to as military widows, the Gold Star Wives are a tightly knit group who bond together to share experiences, gain strength together to face the challenges confronting them following their loss, gain courage together to grow, and gain wisdom to provide a voice for the families of the fallen heroes; and

WHEREAS, Gold Star Wives Day has been designated to honor and recognize our Gold Star Wives;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Bill Haslam, Governor of the State of Tennessee, in order to mark the 68th anniversary of the first meeting of Gold Star Wives held in 1945, do hereby proclaim Friday, April 5, 2013 as

Gold Star Wives 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.



A blue ink signature of Bill Haslam, Governor of Tennessee.

Governor

A blue ink signature of Julie Hargrett, Secretary of State of Tennessee.

Secretary of State