



STATE OF TENNESSEE  
**PROCLAMATION**  
BY THE GOVERNOR

**WHEREAS**, the study of classical and modern languages enhances our understanding of people, ancient and modern; and

**WHEREAS**, in this challenging economy, there is a growing demand for citizens with proficiency in foreign language and competency in cross-cultural awareness; and

**WHEREAS**, in order to maintain a competitive edge in career and business opportunities, individuals who make up our workforce need strong language skills to interact with the rest of the world in matters of commerce, diplomacy, science, and cultural exchange; and

**WHEREAS**, for students, beginning language study early and continuing their study through extended instructional sequence is vital to achieving fluency, with further cognitive benefits seen in greater levels of mental flexibility and creativity among those who have learned a foreign language; and

**WHEREAS**, a knowledge of other languages allows greater access to information, resulting in an increased choice of resources and a richer base of knowledge; and

**WHEREAS**, the foreign language classroom is the venue where language and culture are intertwined and students may gain new levels of appreciation and perspective of the world; and

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, Bill Haslam, Governor of the State of Tennessee, do hereby proclaim the week of March 4-10, 2013, as

*Foreign Language 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 twenty-sixth day of February, 2013.

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

Governor

A blue ink signature of Joe Mangitt, Secretary of State of Tennessee.

Secretary of State

