



STATE OF TENNESSEE

# PROCLAMATION

BY THE GOVERNOR

**WHEREAS**, multiple sclerosis (MS) is a chronic, progressive, disabling neurological disease of unknown origin that affects the central nervous system and has no known cure; and

**WHEREAS**, MS has been diagnosed in more than 400,000 people nationwide, whose family, friends and employers are affected as well; and

**WHEREAS**, people with MS are often misunderstood because many of their symptoms - including fatigue, weakness, cognition difficulties, vision loss, and depression - are invisible; and

**WHEREAS**, with early drug therapy and proper healthcare management disease progression can be slowed, allowing people with MS to live active, rewarding and productive lives; and

**WHEREAS**, increased public education and awareness about MS not only helps people who must cope with the disease, but also encourages funding for vital research aimed at developing more disease-modifying treatments and ultimately a cure; and

**WHEREAS**, it is in the best interest of the state of Tennessee to promote awareness of MS and a better understanding of people who live with the disease;

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

## *Multiple Sclerosis Education and Awareness Month*

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 eighth day of March, 2013.



Handwritten signature of Bill Haslam in blue ink.

Governor

Handwritten signature of Joe Kergett in blue ink.

Secretary of State