



STATE OF TENNESSEE

# PROCLAMATION

BY THE GOVERNOR

**WHEREAS**, road construction and road maintenance, performed by construction workers, utility personnel, and maintenance workers, play an essential role in our ability to be a mobile and free nation; and

**WHEREAS**, work zones present a challenge and potential danger to all motorists, and improvements in safety, education, and driver behavior will benefit drivers of all ages; and

**WHEREAS**, 1,021 traffic fatalities occurred on Tennessee's roads and highways in 2012; and

**WHEREAS**, there were 2,711 traffic crashes in Tennessee work zones in 2012; and

**WHEREAS**, twelve people lost their lives in work zone crashes in Tennessee in 2012; and

**WHEREAS**, three workers were killed in work zones in 2012; and

**WHEREAS**, the most frequently occurring contributing factor to motor vehicle wrecks in construction zones are careless driving, speeding, and failure to obey signs and traffic controls; and

**WHEREAS**, the majority of crashes occur in longer term construction zones, with more than half of them during the day, and 60% on non-interstate roads posted for 55 mph or higher; and

**WHEREAS**, more than half of work zone crashes involve a single vehicle, and one in five involves a heavy truck; and

**WHEREAS**, roadway construction workers are killed at a rate nearly three times higher than construction workers in other areas, and eight times higher than general industry workers; and

**WHEREAS**, the Tennessee Department of Transportation and the Tennessee Department of Safety make consistent and numerous efforts to improve safety in work zones and all roadways in Tennessee through use of enforcement and education, and communications tools such as Tennessee 511, TDOT SmartWay and the TDOT SmartWay Mobile App; and

**WHEREAS**, these services provide the citizens of Tennessee with the knowledge they need to safely travel through work zones, protecting themselves as well as the men and women who put their lives at risk each day in work zones across the state;

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, Bill Haslam, Governor of the State of Tennessee, do hereby proclaim the week of April 14-20, 2013 as

*National Work Zone Awareness 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 eleven day of March, 2013.



*Bill Haslam*

Governor

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Secretary of State