



STATE OF TENNESSEE
PROCLAMATION

BY THE GOVERNOR

WHEREAS, ALS, known by many as Lou Gehrig's disease, is a progressive fatal neurodegenerative disease that attacks nerve cells in the brain and spinal cord making even the simplest movements - walking, speaking, gesturing - nearly impossible; and

WHEREAS, approximately 30,000 individuals in the United States are afflicted with ALS at any given time, with 5,000 new cases appearing each year; and

WHEREAS, approximately 15 new cases of ALS are diagnosed every day, with a person losing their battle with the disease every 90 minutes; and

WHEREAS, ALS strikes people regardless of race, sex, age, or ethnicity; and

WHEREAS, finding the causes of and cure for ALS could prevent the disease from robbing hundreds of thousands of Americans of their lives and dignity; and

WHEREAS, treatment of the symptoms of ALS can extend the lives of those living with the disease; and

WHEREAS, MDA is a leader in the search for treatments and a cure for ALS through its aggressive worldwide research and MDA/ALS clinical programs including those at Vanderbilt University Medical Center; and

WHEREAS, raising public awareness of this disease can help facilitate the discovery of a cure, and bring much needed dollars for support and services for families in Tennessee dealing with ALS; and

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

ALS 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 April, 2013.

Handwritten signature of Bill Haslam in blue ink.

Governor

Handwritten signature of Joe Kergett in blue ink.

Secretary of State

