



STATE OF TENNESSEE

PROCLAMATION

BY THE GOVERNOR

WHEREAS, Transverse Myelitis, a disease with approximately 1,400 new cases diagnosed in the United States each year, is a significant, serious spinal cord condition; and

WHEREAS, Transverse Myelitis affects the neurological system, causing the spinal cord to become inflamed, and can occur in a single condition or in the presence of an existing illness; and

WHEREAS, symptoms include back pain, numbness of the lower extremities and headache, and as the condition progresses, paralysis, sensory loss and bowel and bladder dysfunction may occur; and

WHEREAS, although spinal cord injuries have been well publicized by the media, many people are not aware of Transverse Myelitis; and

WHEREAS, recovery from Transverse Myelitis can be difficult, with about 40% of patients having some degree of persisting disability; and

WHEREAS, increased awareness of Transverse Myelitis will help accomplish improvements in diagnosis and further scientific research;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Bill Haslam, Governor of the State of Tennessee, do hereby proclaim June 9, 2013, as

Transverse Myelitis Awareness 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 April, 2013.



Handwritten signature of Bill Haslam in blue ink.

Governor

Handwritten signature of Joe Knight in blue ink.

Secretary of State