



STATE OF TENNESSEE
PROCLAMATION
BY THE GOVERNOR

WHEREAS, since May 20, 1950, the first Armed Forces Day celebrated in America, the citizens of our nation have joined together to recognize and show appreciation to all the dedicated patriots who serve in our country's Armed Forces; and

WHEREAS, a single day celebration was inspired by the unification of the Armed Forces under Secretary of Defense Louis Johnson; and

WHEREAS, all branches of the military were asked to replace their individual days of recognition in order to celebrate the newly formed Armed Forces Day; and

WHEREAS, across the nation the first Armed Forces Day was celebrated through parades, open houses, receptions and air shows; and

WHEREAS, President Harry S. Truman stated the first Armed Forces Day, "is the first parade of preparedness by the unified forces of our land, sea and air defense;" and

WHEREAS, we continue to observe the third Saturday of May each year to honor the men and women in the United States Military who selflessly serve with professionalism and a determined spirit of patriotism to our great country; and

WHEREAS, this tradition allows the people of our country to pause and respectfully reflect upon the critical sacrifices our military troops make each and every day in order that we might preserve our way of life and enjoy the blessings of peace and liberty; and

WHEREAS, we celebrate, honor and recognize each service member who bravely represents the United States of America in each branch of the Armed Forces;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Bill Haslam, Governor of the State of Tennessee, do hereby proclaim May 18, 2013, as

Armed Forces 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 twenty-ninth day of April, 2013.

Bill Haslam

Governor

Joe Hays

Secretary of State