



STATE OF TENNESSEE
PROCLAMATION

BY THE GOVERNOR

WHEREAS, lupus is an autoimmune disease that can cause severe damage to the tissue and organs in the body and, in some cases, death; and

WHEREAS, more than five million people worldwide suffer the devastating effects of this disease and each year more than one hundred thousand young women, men and children are newly diagnosed with lupus, the great majority of whom are women of childbearing age; and

WHEREAS, additional medical research efforts are needed to better understand lupus and to discover safer, more effective treatments for lupus patients; and

WHEREAS, many physicians worldwide may be unaware of symptoms and health effects of lupus, causing people with lupus to suffer for many years before they obtain a correct diagnosis and medical treatment; and

WHEREAS, there is a need worldwide to educate and support individuals and families affected by lupus; and

WHEREAS, there is a need to increase awareness in communities worldwide of the debilitating impact of lupus;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Bill Haslam, Governor of the State of Tennessee, do hereby proclaim May 10, 2013, as World Lupus Day, and the month of May 2013 as

Lupus 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 twenty-ninth day of April, 2013.



Bill Haslam

Governor

Lee Wright

Secretary of State