



STATE OF TENNESSEE

PROCLAMATION

BY THE GOVERNOR

WHEREAS, the citizens of the State of Tennessee stand firmly committed to quality afterschool programs and opportunities because they; and

- provide safe, challenging, engaging and fun learning experiences to help children and youth develop their social, emotional, physical, cultural and academic skills,
- support working families by ensuring their children are safe and productive after the regular school day ends.
- build stronger communities by involving our students, parents, business leaders and adult volunteers in the lives of our young people, thereby promoting positive relationships among children, youth, families and adults,
- engage families, schools and diverse community partners in advancing the welfare of our children,

WHEREAS, the Tennessee Commission on Children and Youth and afterschool programs across Tennessee have provided significant leadership in the area of community involvement in the education and well-being of our youth, grounded in the principle that quality afterschool programs are key to helping our children become successful adults; and

WHEREAS, Lights On Afterschool, a national celebration of afterschool programs on October 20, 2011 promotes the critical importance of quality afterschool programs in the lives of children, their families and their communities; and

WHEREAS, more than 28 million children in the U.S. have parents who work outside the home, and 15.1 million children have no place to go after school; and

WHEREAS, many afterschool programs across the country are facing funding shortfalls so severe that they are being forced to close their doors and turn off their lights.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Bill Haslam, Governor of the State of Tennessee, do hereby proclaim October 20, 2011, as

KEEP THE LIGHTS ON AFTER SCHOOL



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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 27th day of September, 2011.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Bill Haslam", written over a horizontal line.

Governor

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Lee Hargrett", written over a horizontal line.

Secretary of State