



STATE OF TENNESSEE

# PROCLAMATION

BY THE GOVERNOR

**WHEREAS**, Lyme disease is the most commonly reported tick-borne illness in the United States and Tennessee; and

**WHEREAS**, May through June is the peak feeding time for blacklegged ticks – also called deer ticks – which transmit Lyme disease bacteria in forested areas of Tennessee; and

**WHEREAS**, the number of Tennessee residents with Lyme disease has steadily increased; and

**WHEREAS**, simple tick-bite prevention measures, such as using tick repellents and conducting frequent tick checks, may reduce the chance of contracting Lyme disease and other tick-borne diseases; and

**WHEREAS**, early recognition and treatment of Lyme disease can prevent the long-term health problems associated with the disease;

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

## *Lyme Disease 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 seventeenth day of May, 2013.

A blue ink signature of Bill Haslam.

Governor

A blue ink signature of Jeff Wadsworth.

Secretary of State

