



STATE OF TENNESSEE
PROCLAMATION
BY THE GOVERNOR

WHEREAS, Tennessee's seniors are valued members of society, and it is our collective responsibility to ensure they live safely and with dignity; and

WHEREAS, Tennessee's seniors deserve to live safely with dignity, and as independently as possible, with the support they need; and

WHEREAS, elder abuse is any act that harms a senior or jeopardizes his or her health or welfare; and

WHEREAS, abuse of older people is a tragedy inflicted on vulnerable seniors, and is an ever-increasing problem in today's society that crosses all socio-economic boundaries; and

WHEREAS, over 14,700 reports of adult abuse, neglect and or exploitation were made to the Tennessee Department of Human Services' Adult Protective Services (APS) Program last year; and

WHEREAS, combating abuse and financial exploitation of older people will help improve the quality of life for all seniors across the United States and Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, Tennessee's seniors are guaranteed that they will be treated with respect and dignity to enable them to continue to serve as leaders, mentors, volunteers and important and active members of this community; and

WHEREAS, the well-being of Tennessee's seniors is in the interest of all and further adds to the well-being of Tennessee communities;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Bill Haslam, Governor of the State of Tennessee, do hereby proclaim June 15, 2013, as

Elder Abuse 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 thirty-first day of May, 2013.



Bill Haslam

Governor

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Secretary of State