



STATE OF TENNESSEE  
**PROCLAMATION**  
BY THE GOVERNOR

**WHEREAS**, the State of Tennessee recognizes the importance of giving children permanent, safe, and loving families through adoption; and

**WHEREAS**, more than 104,000 children in the United States foster care system are waiting to be adopted; and

**WHEREAS**, hundreds of children in Tennessee are waiting for permanent families; and

**WHEREAS**, to help these children find permanent, nurturing families, courts will open their doors on National Adoption Day, Saturday, November 23, 2013, to finalize the adoptions of local children and join other organizations to celebrate all adoptions; and

**WHEREAS**, this effort along with similar celebrations in all 50 states, the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico, will offer children the chance to live with stable and loving families and encourage other dedicated individuals to make a powerful difference in the lives of a child through adoption;

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, Bill Haslam, Governor of the State of Tennessee, do hereby proclaim November 23, 2013, as

*Adoption 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 fourteenth day of June, 2013.

*Bill Haslam*

Governor

*Lee Vincent*

Secretary of State