



STATE OF TENNESSEE  
**PROCLAMATION**

BY THE GOVERNOR

**WHEREAS**, posttraumatic stress disorder, known as PTSD, is a mental health condition that is triggered by a major terrifying event and is persistently re-experienced in one's life through flashbacks, dreams, and intense psychological distress; and

**WHEREAS**, approximately 60% of men and 50% of women will experience at least one trauma in their lives; and

**WHEREAS**, 5.2 million adults experience PTSD during a given year; and

**WHEREAS**, without treatment, PTSD can lead to alcohol and drug abuse, reliving the terror, heart attacks, depression, dementia, suicide, and stroke; and

**WHEREAS**, approximately 10% to 15% of veterans suffer from PTSD; and

**WHEREAS**, a veteran commits suicide every 80 minutes due to PTSD; and

**WHEREAS**, raising public awareness of this condition could facilitate the discovery of effective treatment options and bring much needed dollars for support and services for individuals in Tennessee dealing with PTSD;

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

*PTSD 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 first day of June, 2013.

*Bill Haslam*

Governor

*Joe Hargett*

Secretary of State

