



STATE OF TENNESSEE

PROCLAMATION

BY THE GOVERNOR

WHEREAS, nationally, suicide is one of the most disruptive and tragic events a family and a community can experience; and

WHEREAS, annually, more than 30,000 lives are lost, and it is estimated that for every suicide there are 8-25 attempted suicides; and

WHEREAS, suicide is the third-leading cause of death among people from the age of 15 to 24 in the United States and in Tennessee, and the ninth-leading killer overall in Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, public awareness is the key to preventing further suffering and loss of life; and

WHEREAS, the risk for human self-destruction can be reduced through awareness, education, referrals and treatment; and

WHEREAS, suicide prevention has been declared a national priority by the President and Congress, and Tennessee recognizes suicide prevention as a state priority; and

WHEREAS, Tennessee is a national leader in the effort to prevent suicide, being one of the first states to have already developed a statewide suicide prevention plan; and

WHEREAS, the Tennessee Suicide Prevention Network is a grassroots collaboration of Tennesseans and organizations working to eliminate the stigma of suicide, educate the community about the warning signs of suicide, and ultimately reduce the rate of suicide in our state; and

WHEREAS, the Tennessee Suicide Prevention Network is committed to excellence in suicide prevention, intervention, and postvention;

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

SUICIDE PREVENTION 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 September, 2011.

Governor

Secretary of State