



STATE OF TENNESSEE
PROCLAMATION

BY THE GOVERNOR

WHEREAS, the citizens of the State of Tennessee share a desire to raise awareness and encourage the prevention of falls and traumatic brain injuries among older adults; and

WHEREAS, falls limit the potential for all people, including the older and disabled population to live a full and active life; and

WHEREAS, falling and fear of falling can lead to depression, loss of mobility, and loss of functional independence in older adults and the disabled; and

WHEREAS, falls can result in brain injuries or hip fractures that necessitate admission to a long-term care facility; and

WHEREAS, in 2009, approximately 20,400 older adults died as a result of falls; and

WHEREAS, in 2010, falls by older adults resulted in approximately 2.3 million visits to the emergency department in the United States; and

WHEREAS, falls are the leading cause of non-fatal injury and the leading cause of death from unintentional injury nationwide and in Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, many falls can be prevented by engaging in physical activity to improve balance and strength, medication management, regular health and vision check-ups, and home-safety measures; and

WHEREAS, older adults and the disabled are not alone in their efforts to reduce fall risk. Healthcare professionals, family members, friends, and community resources can provide the support needed to safely live life to the fullest;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Bill Haslam, Governor of the State of Tennessee, do hereby proclaim September 22, 2013 as Fall Prevention Awareness Day

Fall Prevention 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 thirtieth day of August, 2013.

Bill Haslam

Governor

Joe Knight

Secretary of State