



STATE OF TENNESSEE

# PROCLAMATION

BY THE GOVERNOR

**WHEREAS**, Rett Syndrome is a childhood neurodevelopment disorder that almost exclusively affects girls.

**WHEREAS**, although Rett Syndrome is present at birth, symptoms usually do not develop until children are between the ages of 6 to 18 months; and

**WHEREAS**, some of the first symptoms of Rett Syndrome include problems crawling or walking, diminished eye contact, and, eventually, interference with body movement; and

**WHEREAS**, there is no known cure for Rett Syndrome, but symptoms can be treated with medication, and occupational therapy, physiotherapy, and hydrotherapy can prolong mobility; and

**WHEREAS**, while there is still much to learn about Rett Syndrome, but there have been significant advances in diagnosis and in promising research;

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, Bill Haslam, Governor of Tennessee, do hereby proclaim the month of October 2011, as

## RETT SYNDROME 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 23rd day of September, 2011.

Governor

Secretary of State