



STATE OF TENNESSEE  
**PROCLAMATION**

BY THE GOVERNOR

**WHEREAS**, every child in Tennessee has the right to a high-quality education; and

**WHEREAS**, education is critically important to the health and economic vitality of Tennessee, and plays a significant role in a family's choice of where to live; and

**WHEREAS**, Tennesseans agree that improving the quality of education, particularly for the neediest children, and expanding access to highly effective schools is important; and

**WHEREAS**, an effective and accountable education system plays a critical role in preparing all Tennessee students to be successful adults in a global economy; and

**WHEREAS**, Tennessee is home to a multitude of high-quality public schools, magnet schools, public charter schools, and private schools; and

**WHEREAS**, educational variety not only helps to diversify our economy, but also enhances the vibrancy of our community; and

**WHEREAS**, Tennessee has many high-quality teaching professionals in public, private and charter schools who are committed to educating children; and

**WHEREAS**, through continued teamwork between parents, teachers and schools, our community can strive to provide greater educational diversity and instructional excellence for our children; and

**WHEREAS**, the vital cause of education reform is one that transcends ideology and political affiliation; and

**WHEREAS**, research demonstrates that providing children with multiple schooling options can improve academic performance and help revitalize cities; and

**WHEREAS**, School Choice Week is a nationally celebrated event during which we join with millions of parents, educators, schools and organizations around the country to raise awareness of the need for effective educational options that challenge and motivate all our students to succeed;

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, Bill Haslam, Governor of the State of Tennessee, do hereby proclaim January 26 - February 1, 2014, as

*School Choice Week*

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 twenty-second day of January, 2014.

*Bill Haslam*

Governor

*Joe Vignatt*

Secretary of State