



STATE OF TENNESSEE  
**PROCLAMATION**

BY THE GOVERNOR

**WHEREAS**, Tennesseans have long recognized and valued the importance of serving their communities, state, and nation through volunteer community service; and

**WHEREAS**, this commitment to public service long ago earning Tennessee the distinction of being known as "The Volunteer State"; and

**WHEREAS**, expanding on this rich tradition of public service, on February 7, 1994, Governor Ned McWherter signed Executive Order No. 55, establishing the Tennessee Commission on National and Community Service (now Volunteer Tennessee) to encourage community service and volunteer participation as a means of community and state problem-solving; to promote and support voluntary citizen involvement in government and private service programs throughout the state; to develop a long-term, comprehensive vision and plan for action for community service initiatives in Tennessee; and to serve as the state's liaison to national and state organizations which support its mission; and

**WHEREAS**, since its creation, Volunteer Tennessee has worked tirelessly to achieve its mission and has been a leader in the creation of an expanded network of support for volunteer service, working through programs such as AmeriCorps, Learn and Serve America, and through traditional volunteer organizations; and

**WHEREAS**, Volunteer Tennessee has trained over 20,000 people on volunteer-related topics since 1994; and

**WHEREAS**, Volunteer Tennessee has recognized 316 Governor's Volunteer Stars since 2008; and

**WHEREAS**, Volunteer Tennessee has enabled 6,618 Team Tennessee AmeriCorps members to take the AmeriCorps pledge and provide over 4 million hours of service and leverage over 1 million traditional volunteer hours of service to Tennessee communities in the past twenty years;

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, Bill Haslam, Governor of the State of Tennessee, do hereby recognize February 7, 2014, as the

*20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Volunteer 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-seventh day of January, 2014.

Handwritten signature of Bill Haslam in blue ink.

Governor

Handwritten signature of Joe Vitale in blue ink.

Secretary of State

