



STATE OF TENNESSEE

PROCLAMATION

BY THE GOVERNOR

WHEREAS, on March 29, 1973, the last remaining American troops withdrew from Vietnam as President Nixon declares, "the day we have all worked and prayed for has finally come"; and

WHEREAS, in March 2008, Tennessee passed legislation proclaiming March 29 of each year to be observed as "Vietnam Veterans Day" to honor and recognize the Veterans who served during the Vietnam War; and

WHEREAS, during fifteen years of military involvement, more than two-million Americans served in Vietnam with 500,000 seeing actual combat and more than 58,000 members of the United States Armed Forces lost their lives and 2,646 Americans unaccounted for from the war; and

WHEREAS, the state of Tennessee directly felt the weight of the war with 1,295 casualties and 27 unaccounted for personnel; and

WHEREAS, this long war included countless acts of courage, where 246 specific acts of valor were awarded the Congressional Medal of Honor nationally; and

WHEREAS, on this date, we pause and reflect to show appreciation and respect to the brave men and women who, with noble dedication to duty, defended America's interests, fighting those who threaten to destroy our way of life, and supporting those who fight for freedom; and

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Bill Haslam, Governor of the State of Tennessee, do hereby proclaim March 29, 2014 as

Vietnam Veterans Day

in Tennessee and encourage all citizens to join me in this worthy observance of their military service to our nation, and the great state of Tennessee.

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-fourth day of February, 2014.



A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Bill Haslam".

Governor

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Joe Wargitt".

Secretary of State