



STATE OF TENNESSEE

# PROCLAMATION

BY THE GOVERNOR

**WHEREAS**, Charcot-Marie-Tooth (CMT) is the most common inherited peripheral neuropathy disorder, affecting approximately 1 in 2,500 people worldwide, and approximately 2,500 people in Tennessee; and

**WHEREAS**, CMT is characterized by a slow and progressive degeneration of the muscles in the foot, lower leg, and forearm, extending to weakness in the hands and loss of muscle tone; and

**WHEREAS**, some doctors, medical professionals, and educators may have limited awareness of the disorder, its symptoms, or the obstacles faced when affected by this disorder; and

**WHEREAS**, Vanderbilt University Medical Center is now designated as the Center for Excellence on CMT with patients coming from Kentucky, Indiana, Alabama, Georgia, Mississippi, Arkansas, and Louisiana; and

**WHEREAS**, through an innovative public-private partnership combining the National Institutes of Health and university laboratories with expertise in peripheral nerve biology, scientist have identified candidate drugs with potential to begin human clinical trials for the treatment of the most common type of CMT; and

**WHEREAS**, The Charcot-Marie-Tooth Association is working nationally and internationally to expand public awareness and encourage all residents of Tennessee to take cognizance of this event and join in the endeavor to spread awareness and educate the populace about CMT;

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, Bill Haslam, Governor of the State of Tennessee, do hereby proclaim the month of September 2014 as

*Charcot-Marie-Tooth 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 fifth day of March, 2014.

*Bill Haslam*

Governor

*Joe Bergatt*

Secretary of State