



STATE OF TENNESSEE
PROCLAMATION

BY THE GOVERNOR

WHEREAS, during World War I families with men in the service displayed banners with blue stars in the center in the window, and as soldiers were killed their families superimposed a gold star over the blue star; and

WHEREAS, the gold star symbolized the honor and glory accorded the serviceman for their supreme sacrifice in giving the last full measure of devotion to his country; and

WHEREAS, the gold star replaced a lonely personal loss with a proud public symbol for the family; and

WHEREAS, the family members who put our country ahead of their own needs, carry the devastating heartache and pain of losing their loved one while in service; and

WHEREAS, an immeasurable debt of gratitude is owed to the parents, spouses, siblings and children who will continue to feel and bear the personal suffering and anguish of the profound cost to protect our nation's liberty and freedom long after the battle has ended; and

WHEREAS, the citizens of this great nation must gather around these courageous families to honor, remember, and express our gratitude and appreciation for their deep loss; and

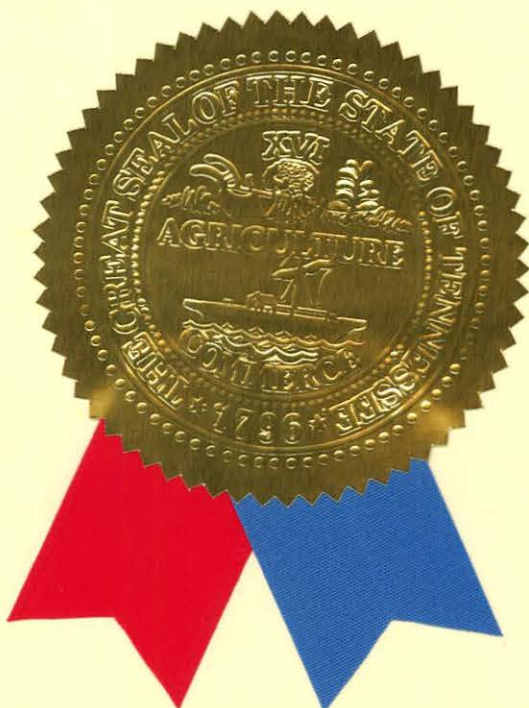
WHEREAS, this day is set aside to recognize the sacrifices given by the families of the fallen service members, and to pause and reflect on those left behind when our nations brave answered when called upon;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Bill Haslam, Governor of the State of Tennessee, do hereby proclaim May 23, 2014 as

Gold Star Family Day

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-fifth day of March, 2014.



Bill Haslam

Governor

Joe Mangatt

Secretary of State