



STATE OF TENNESSEE
PROCLAMATION

BY THE GOVERNOR

WHEREAS, after the end of the Civil War a group of women decorated the graves of Confederate soldiers who had fallen in the battle of Shiloh, they were disturbed by the sight of the bare graves of the Union soldiers, and as an act of kindness they placed flowers on those graves; and

WHEREAS, three years after the end of the Civil War, Decoration Day was established as a time for the nation to decorate the graves of the war dead with flowers; and

WHEREAS, Major General John A. Logan declared, "Let no neglect, no ravages of time, testify to the present or to the coming generations that we have forgotten as a people the cost of a free and undivided republic" ; and

WHEREAS, in 1971, Memorial Day was declared a national holiday by an act of Congress to honor those who have died in all American wars; and

WHEREAS, each year, on the last Monday of May, Tennesseans observe Memorial Day and honor the heroes who have laid down their lives in the cause of freedom, and resolve that they will forever be remembered by a grateful Nation; and

WHEREAS, we commemorate this noble American holiday and honor those who fell in defense of liberty, freedom and peace;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Bill Haslam, Governor of the State of Tennessee, do hereby proclaim May 26, 2014 as

Memorial 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.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Bill Haslam".

Governor

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Sue Herget".

Secretary of State

