



STATE OF TENNESSEE

PROCLAMATION

BY THE GOVERNOR

WHEREAS, stroke is a leading cause of serious long-term disability and the fourth leading cause of death in the United States, killing about 130,000 people nationwide; and

WHEREAS, stroke prevalence is projected to increase by 25 percent between 2010 and 2030 and the direct medical costs for treating stroke are expected to increase over 200 percent, from \$28 billion in 2010 to \$96 billion by 2030; and

WHEREAS, nearly 78 million Americans have high blood pressure which is a major controllable risk factor for stroke, including 44 percent of African American adults, among the highest prevalence of any population in the world; and

WHEREAS, more than half (58%) of Americans do not know if they are at risk for stroke; and

WHEREAS, one in three Americans cannot recall any stroke warning signs or symptoms; and

WHEREAS, the F.A.S.T. warning signs and symptoms of stroke include face drooping, arm weakness, speech difficulty and time to call 9-1-1; and beyond F.A.S.T., additional stroke warning signs and symptoms include sudden numbness or weakness of the face, arm or leg, especially on one side of the body; sudden confusion, trouble speaking or understanding; sudden trouble seeing in one or both eyes; sudden trouble walking, dizziness, loss of balance or coordination; and sudden severe headache with no known cause; and

WHEREAS, on the American Stroke Month Day of Action May 1, 2014, throughout May and year-round, the American Stroke Association's Together to End Stroke initiative encourages Americans to learn their personal stroke risk, memorize and share the stroke warning signs, and call 9-1-1 at the first sign of a stroke; and

WHEREAS, new and effective treatments have been developed to treat and minimize the severity and damaging effect of strokes, but much more research is needed;

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

Stroke 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 seventeenth day of April, 2014.

A blue ink signature of Bill Haslam, the Governor of Tennessee.

Governor

A blue ink signature of Joe Hight, the Secretary of State of Tennessee.

Secretary of State

