



STATE OF TENNESSEE

# PROCLAMATION

BY THE GOVERNOR

**WHEREAS**, beef is Tennessee's number one farm commodity generating more than twenty percent of the state's \$3.8 billion in agricultural cash receipts; and

**WHEREAS**, Tennessee ranks 9<sup>th</sup> nationally in the total number of farms and 15<sup>th</sup> in beef cattle production with more than 1.9 million head of cattle and calves; and

**WHEREAS**, the state of Tennessee recognizes the important contributions of our state's 48,000 cattle producers as good stewards of private land and resources, and as business and community leaders; and

**WHEREAS**, cattle are among the most efficient means of converting forage to human food on Tennessee's five million acres of pasture and hay lands; thereby contributing to the conservation of soil by allowing those acres to remain in grass and legumes; and

**WHEREAS**, beef provides a valuable source of high quality protein, as well as numerous vitamins and minerals important to a balanced, healthy diet; and

**WHEREAS**, the state of Tennessee recognizes the economic and nutritional value of beef promotion and beef consumption to the enjoyment and good health of our citizens;

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

## *Beef 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 twentieth day of May, 2014.

Handwritten signature of Bill Haslam in blue ink.

Governor

Handwritten signature of Je Vugot in blue ink.

Secretary of State