



STATE OF TENNESSEE
PROCLAMATION
BY THE GOVERNOR

WHEREAS, approximately one in every 2,200 individuals are born with gastroschisis in the United States; and

WHEREAS, the cause of gastroschisis is still largely unknown; and

WHEREAS, many Americans living with gastroschisis have serious and debilitating conditions that have a significant impact on the lives of those affected including but not limited to failure to thrive/slow growth, short bowel syndrome, multiple organ transplants, and long term feeding issues; and

WHEREAS, individuals and families affected by gastroschisis may experience problems such as a sense of isolation, difficulty in obtaining an accurate and timely diagnosis, few treatment options, and problems related to accessing or being reimbursed for treatment; and

WHEREAS, Avery's Angels Gastroschisis Foundation (AAGF) is organizing a nationwide observance of Gastroschisis Awareness Day on July 30, 2014; and

WHEREAS, The son of the founder of Avery's Angels, Avery John Rauen, passed away from complications of his gastroschisis on July 30, 2009 at UNC hospital, and this date is to commemorate him and all others living with or deceased from gastroschisis;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Bill Haslam, Governor of the State of Tennessee, do hereby proclaim July 30, 2014 as

Gastroschisis Awareness 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 twentieth day of May, 2014.

Bill Haslam

Governor

Julie M. Kirtland

Secretary of State