



STATE OF TENNESSEE

# PROCLAMATION

BY THE GOVERNOR

**WHEREAS**, Carbon Monoxide, often referred to as the "silent killer" is responsible for over 500 deaths each year and causes over 20,000 people to be treated in emergency rooms annually due to unintentional exposure according to the Centers for Disease Control; and

**WHEREAS**, Carbon Monoxide is a serious public safety concern both locally and nationally and poses the greatest risk to people in their homes; and

**WHEREAS**, Carbon Monoxide is an odorless, tasteless, invisible gas that is highly toxic and can cause death within minutes of exposure; and

**WHEREAS**, residents who have inspected their home fuel-burning appliances, who have installed a Carbon Monoxide alarm and who are aware of the poisoning symptoms, which mimics many common illnesses such as food poisoning and the flu, are more prepared and will be more likely to survive Carbon Monoxide exposure; and

**WHEREAS**, Carbon Monoxide poisoning took the lives of Jonathan Michael Over, age 27; Kathryn Elizabeth Watson Over, age 27; Allison Elizabeth Bagwell-Wyatt, age 32; Timothy B. Stone, age 39; and James (Slim) F. Wall, II, age 38, all members of "Bikers Who Care" on September 18, 2011, while sleeping in a rented recreational vehicle after attending BWC's 30th annual toy run and benefit party; and

**WHEREAS**, these individuals left behind thirteen children and a host of family and friends; and

**WHEREAS**, in honor of these individuals who were dedicated to supporting children's charities through the BWC group, and whose lives were taken silently, Carbon Monoxide Awareness Day will be a day to remember these individuals and provide more knowledge and awareness of the dangers of Carbon Monoxide;

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, Bill Haslam, Governor of the State of Tennessee, do hereby proclaim September 18, 2014 as

## *Carbon Monoxide 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 thirteenth day of August, 2014.

Handwritten signature of Bill Haslam in blue ink.

Governor

Handwritten signature of Joe Berges in blue ink.

Secretary of State