



STATE OF TENNESSEE  
**PROCLAMATION**  
BY THE GOVERNOR

**WHEREAS**, the State of Tennessee believes that small businesses are the backbone of our economy and the glue that holds communities together; and

**WHEREAS**, According to the United States Small Business Administration, there are currently 28 million small businesses in the United States last year and small businesses created 65 percent of net new jobs over the past two decades; and

**WHEREAS**, a majority of US consumers agree it is important to support the small businesses they value in their communities and most are willing to pledge support for a "Buy Local" small business initiative like Small Business Saturday; and

**WHEREAS**, Tennessee supports our local businesses that create jobs, boost our local economy and preserve our neighborhoods; and

**WHEREAS**, advocacy groups and public and private organizations across the country have endorsed the Saturday after Thanksgiving as Small Business Saturday; and

**WHEREAS**, residents of our community, and communities across the country, are being asked to support small businesses and merchants on Small Business Saturday and throughout the year; and

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, Bill Haslam, Governor of the State of Tennessee, do hereby proclaim November 26, 2011 as

## **SMALL BUSINESS SATURDAY**

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 16th day of November, 2011.

Handwritten signature of Bill Haslam in blue ink.

Governor

Handwritten signature of Joe Hargett in blue ink.

Secretary of State