



STATE OF TENNESSEE
PROCLAMATION
BY THE GOVERNOR

WHEREAS, the State of Tennessee is committed to ensuring the safety and security of all those living in and visiting our state; and

WHEREAS, the State of Tennessee is committed to providing enduring education to middle and elementary school students; and

WHEREAS, youth violence, delinquency, and bullying are concerns both locally and nationally; and

WHEREAS, the Gang Resistance Education And Training (G.R.E.A.T.) program is an evidence-based and effective gang and violence prevention program built around school-based, law enforcement officer-instructed classroom curricula; and

WHEREAS, the G.R.E.A.T. Program offers a continuum of components for students and their families that focus on providing life skills to help youth avoid bullying, delinquent behaviors, and violence to solve problems; and

WHEREAS, the G.R.E.A.T. Pledge, "I pledge to use my G.R.E.A.T. skills to reduce violence in my community, work to resolve conflicts peacefully, and stop bullying whenever I see it," effectively serves to remind students to use these life skills;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Bill Haslam, Governor of the State of Tennessee, do hereby proclaim October 1, 2014, as

Choose to be G. R. E. A. T. Day

in Tennessee, and urge all middle and elementary school children of Tennessee to sign the G.R.E.A.T. Pledge on this day.



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 tenth day of September, 2014.

Bill Haslam

Governor

Joe Reger

Secretary of State