



STATE OF TENNESSEE  
**PROCLAMATION**  
BY THE GOVERNOR

**WHEREAS**, cancer is the leading cause of death by disease among U.S. children between infancy and 15 years old; and

**WHEREAS**, more than 11,000 new cases of pediatric cancer were estimated to occur in children under the age of 15 in 2011; and

**WHEREAS**, in Tennessee, more than 260 individuals under 20 years of age are found to have cancer each year; and

**WHEREAS**, childhood cancer affects all ethnic groups, socioeconomic classes and geographical regions; and

**WHEREAS**, St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, located in the heart of Memphis, Tennessee, is internationally recognized for its pioneering research and treatment of children with cancer and other catastrophic diseases; and

**WHEREAS**, St. Jude Children's Research Hospital was founded in 1962 by the late entertainer Danny Thomas, and became pivotal in one of the great success stories of modern medicine -- transforming the most common form of childhood cancer from a virtual death sentence into a treatable disease; and

**WHEREAS**, St. Jude Children's Research Hospital's discoveries have helped push overall survival rates for childhood cancers from 20 percent when the hospital opened to 80 percent today; and

**WHEREAS**, St. Jude Children's Research Hospital continues to be a global resource for childhood cancer eradication by rapidly and freely sharing its research findings; and

**WHEREAS**, St. Jude Children's Research Hospital is a leader in understanding the long-term effects of childhood cancer treatment and pursuing improved treatments that ensure the best possible quality of life for survivors; and

**WHEREAS**, in addition to pediatric cancer research, St. Jude Children's Research Hospital is a leader in sickle cell disease research and is a globally prominent research center for influenza; and

**WHEREAS**, St. Jude Children's Research Hospital will celebrate its 50th anniversary in February 2012; and

**WHEREAS**, St. Jude Children's Research Hospital is a critical national resource, and a point of great pride for Tennessee;

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, Bill Haslam, Governor of the State of Tennessee, do hereby proclaim the month of February, 2012, as

## **St. Jude Children's Research Hospital 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 11th day of January, 2012.

Governor

Secretary of State