



STATE OF TENNESSEE
PROCLAMATION
BY THE GOVERNOR

WHEREAS, multiple sclerosis (MS) is a chronic, progressive, disabling neurological disease of unknown origin that affects the central nervous system and has no known cure; and

WHEREAS, according to the NIH, experts believe there are currently between 250,000-300,000 people in the United States diagnosed with MS; whose family, friends and employers are affected as well; and

WHEREAS, people with MS are often misunderstood because many of their symptoms - including fatigue, weakness, cognition difficulties, vision loss, and depression - are invisible; and

WHEREAS, with early drug therapy and proper healthcare management disease progression can be slowed, allowing people with MS to live active, rewarding and productive lives; and

WHEREAS, increased public education and awareness about MS not only helps people who must cope with the disease, but also encourages funding for vital research aimed at developing more disease-modifying treatments and ultimately a cure; and

WHEREAS, discovering the cause, finding a cure, and preventing future generations from being diagnosed with MS is an important task that all Americans and Tennesseans should support; and

WHEREAS, Since 1946 the National Multiple Sclerosis Society has been a driving force of MS research, relentlessly pursuing prevention, treatment and a cure and has invested more than \$870 million dollars in groundbreaking research; and

WHEREAS, the National Multiple Sclerosis Society, Mid South Chapter, has been committed for more than 51 years to a world free of MS, heightening public knowledge about and insight into the disease;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Bill Haslam, Governor of the State of Tennessee, do hereby proclaim the week of March 2 through March 8, 2015 as

Multiple Sclerosis Awareness Week

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 twenty-fourth day of February, 2015.

Bill Haslam

Governor

Joe Hargett

Secretary of State