



STATE OF TENNESSEE

PROCLAMATION

BY THE GOVERNOR

WHEREAS, 32 years ago President Ronald Reagan named March 1983 as the first Eye Donor Awareness Month; and

WHEREAS, corneal transplant is one of the most frequently performed human transplant procedures; and

WHEREAS, since 1961, more than 700,000 corneal transplants have been performed, restoring sight to men, women, and children ranging in age from nine days to 103 years; and

WHEREAS, although more than 50,000 corneal transplants were provided for transplant last year, the need for corneal tissue is never satisfied; and

WHEREAS, the state of Tennessee has an online donor registry designed to promote Cornea and Tissue Donation and provide the citizens of Tennessee the option to donate; and

WHEREAS, Eye Banks for Sight Restoration strive to provide quality corneal tissue to the patients and transplant surgeons of our state; and

WHEREAS, Eye Banks for Sight Restoration strive to promote education and promotion of corneal transplants throughout the state;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Bill Haslam, Governor of the State of Tennessee, do hereby proclaim the month of March, 2015 as

Eye Donor Awareness 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 eleventh day of March, 2015.

Handwritten signature of Bill Haslam in blue ink.

Governor

Handwritten signature of Julie Hayat in blue ink.

Secretary of State

