



STATE OF TENNESSEE

# PROCLAMATION

BY THE GOVERNOR

**WHEREAS**, there may be over 700,000 individuals in the United States have an inherited genetic defect associated with Lynch syndrome, but less than 5% of those persons are currently aware of that condition; and

**WHEREAS**, approximately one out of every thirty-five individuals newly diagnosed with colorectal cancer have Lynch Syndrome; and

**WHEREAS**, Lynch Syndrome is a hereditary predisposition presenting a high lifetime risk of contracting a litany of cancers, including about a 70% lifetime risk of colon cancer in men and an approximate 50% lifetime risk of colon and endometrial cancer in women. There are also higher than average risks of contracting ovarian cancers, stomach cancers, hepatobiliary cancers, urinary tract cancers, pancreatic cancer, prostate cancer, skin cancer, brain cancer and other cancers, often at an earlier age; and

**WHEREAS**, knowing one's family medical history of cancers may prompt genetic testing; and

**WHEREAS**, a positive genetic test could lead to an increase in cancer screening, potentially leading to cancers being detected early and treated or removed, often before becoming life threatening; and

**WHEREAS**, the numbers of cancer deaths could be reduced as a result of public awareness of Lynch Syndrome;

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, Bill Haslam, Governor of the State of Tennessee, do hereby proclaim March 22, 2015, as

## *Lynch Syndrome Cancers Awareness Day*

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 sixth day of March, 2015.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Bill Haslam".

\_\_\_\_\_  
Governor

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Julie Wray".

\_\_\_\_\_  
Secretary of State

