



STATE OF TENNESSEE  
**PROCLAMATION**  
BY THE GOVERNOR

**WHEREAS**, during Asian American and Pacific Islander (AAPI) Heritage Month, we celebrate the accomplishments of Asian Americans, Native Hawaiians, and Pacific Islanders, and reflect on the many ways they have enriched our Nation; and

**WHEREAS**, the month of May is designated as a celebration of the culture, traditions, and history of Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders in the United States; and

**WHEREAS**, according to the U.S. Census Bureau, this community is one of the fastest growing and most diverse populations in the country, composed of over 45 distinct ethnicities and over 28 language groups; and

**WHEREAS**, Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders have impacted all facets of life, including arts and culture, heritage preservation, the sciences, government affairs, business, education, and philanthropy; and

**WHEREAS**, Asian Americans, Native Hawaiians, and Pacific Islanders have helped to build, defend, and strengthen our nation; and

**WHEREAS**, during the observance of Asian American and Pacific Islanders Heritage Month, we celebrate the cultural traditions, ancestry, native languages, and unique experiences represented among ethnic groups from Asia and the Pacific found here in Tennessee; and

**WHEREAS**, we recognize the thousands of Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders whose hard work and love of family and community have helped sustain our state;

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

*Asian American and  
Pacific Islander Heritage 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 twentieth day of March, 2015.

Handwritten signature of Bill Haslam in blue ink.

Governor

Handwritten signature of Joe Hargrett in blue ink.

Secretary of State

