



STATE OF TENNESSEE
PROCLAMATION

BY THE GOVERNOR

WHEREAS, homeownership strengthens Tennessee families and encourages residents to take pride in their neighborhoods and an active role in their communities; and

WHEREAS, homeownership plays a pivotal role in the Tennessee economy and is one of the primary sources of wealth accumulation for working families; and

WHEREAS, homeownership is correlated with improved health and higher life satisfaction among adults and higher grades and graduation rates for children; and

WHEREAS, a commitment to homeownership stimulates construction and related industries, creates jobs, and enhances our prosperity; and

WHEREAS, Tennessee is among only a handful of States seeing strong growth in the housing market, while the number of homeowners nationwide is declining and the national homeownership rate is currently at a 25-year low of 63.7 percent; and

WHEREAS, the National Housing Act, which President Franklin Roosevelt signed into law in June of 1934, made homeownership available to millions of families who previously could not have afforded to buy their own homes; and

WHEREAS, the Tennessee Housing Development Agency's loan programs helped provide the dream of homeownership to 1,695 households in Tennessee in 2014; and

WHEREAS, through the HOME program, 428 families/individuals were assisted with homeownership or some type of homeowner preservation during 2014; and

WHEREAS, the Tennessee Housing Development Agency helped to provide safe, sound affordable housing to 699 families through its Housing Trust Fund in 2014; and

WHEREAS, the Tennessee Housing Development Agency's Keep My Tennessee Home and Foreclosure Prevention programs helped 4,054 homeowners in preventing foreclosure and mitigating the impact of foreclosure in 2014; and

WHEREAS, developers, lenders, real estate professionals, nonprofit counselors, and government agencies work together in promoting and preserving homeownership opportunities for the people of Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, the annual observance of Homeownership Month provides an opportunity for all parts of the housing industry to work together to provide families with the tools and information they need to overcome barriers to homeownership;

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

Homeownership 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 May, 2015.

Governor

Secretary of State

