



STATE OF TENNESSEE  
**PROCLAMATION**  
BY THE GOVERNOR

**WHEREAS**, an estimated 2,300 men in the United States are diagnosed with breast cancer each year and an estimated 450 men each year will die from the disease; and

**WHEREAS**, the public commonly thinks of breast cancer as a disease affecting only women, a misconception that can delay diagnosis and treatment in men, often leading to death; and

**WHEREAS**, early detection of male breast cancer is critical, as men who are diagnosed when breast cancer is in its earliest stages have an increased chance of successful treatment and, ultimately, survival; and

**WHEREAS**, due in part to a lack of awareness that men can develop the disease, men are generally diagnosed with breast cancer at a later stage than women, which affects prognosis and treatment; and

**WHEREAS**, in order to facilitate early diagnosis and prompt treatment of male breast cancer, public education, awareness, and understanding of the disease is necessary; and

**WHEREAS**, in remembrance of the men who have lost their lives to breast cancer, and in support of those who are currently fighting this often overlooked disease, it is appropriate to designate a week of awareness;

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, Bill Haslam, Governor of the State of Tennessee, do hereby proclaim October 18 through October 24, 2015 as

*Male Breast Cancer 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 fourth day of June, 2015.



*Bill Haslam*

Governor

*Joe Wright*

Secretary of State