



STATE OF TENNESSEE

# PROCLAMATION

BY THE GOVERNOR

**WHEREAS**, Arachnoiditis, is a debilitating, progressive, multi-symptom, neurological disease caused by inflammation of the arachnoid, one of the membranes that protect the spinal cord; and

**WHEREAS**, Arachnoiditis causes inflammation which impairs the function of the spinal nerves, including the afferent and efferent nerve pathways; and

**WHEREAS**, Arachnoiditis knows no age limit, and if left unrecognized, untreated, or mistreated, can lead to a variety of symptoms that may result in devastating consequences which can impair the person's ability to function independently to meet their activities of daily living, employment, and lead to total disability; and

**WHEREAS**, the onset of Arachnoiditis can be associated with the use of interventional anesthesia procedures, neurotoxic drugs including unregulated compounded drugs, spinal surgeries, and infections involving the arachnoid membrane; and

**WHEREAS**, it can be difficult to detect, diagnose, treat and provide for the integrated care needs of affected persons; and

**WHEREAS**, prevention of this injury is paramount, and early diagnosis and intervention is crucial, and correct aggressive treatment by qualified medical professional can lead to a positive results before Arachnoiditis progresses and treatment becomes increasingly difficult; and

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

## *Arachnoiditis 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 fourth day of June, 2015.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Bill Haslam".

Governor

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Joe Rye".

Secretary of State

