



STATE OF TENNESSEE

PROCLAMATION

BY THE GOVERNOR

WHEREAS, the strength of our nation, and all of its states, flows from the promise of individual equality and freedom of choice; and

WHEREAS, April marks the forty-fourth anniversary of the enactment of Title VIII of the Civil Rights Act of 1968, the Federal Fair Housing Law, an occasion for Americans, individually and collectively, to rededicate themselves to the principle of freedom of choice and to participate in efforts to eliminate vestiges of housing discrimination wherever they exist; and

WHEREAS, this law guarantees for each citizen that critical, personal element of freedom of choice, and the selection of the home; and

WHEREAS, the National Association of Housing and Redevelopment Officials; American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees; Housing Assistance Council; Local Initiatives Support Corporation; Mortgage Bankers Association; National Association of Counties; National Association of Home Builders; National Association of Realtors; National Council of State Housing Agencies; National Housing Conference; National League of Cities; National Low-Income Housing Coalition; and U.S. Conference of Mayors are united in an effort to raise public awareness of the importance of affordable housing and community development programs and resources; and

WHEREAS, the US Department of Housing and Urban Development and the Tennessee Human Rights Commission are authorized to enforce fair housing laws and provide leadership in the effort to make fair housing not just an idea, but an ideal for all our citizens; and

WHEREAS, fair housing is the policy of the State of Tennessee, providing opportunities for inclusive patterns of housing occupancy regardless of race, color, religion, sex, familial status and national origin; and

WHEREAS, illegal barriers to equal opportunity in housing, no matter how subtle, diminish the rights of all;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Bill Haslam, as Governor of the State of Tennessee, do hereby proclaim the month of April, 2012, as

FAIR HOUSING 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 1st day of March, 2012.

Governor

Secretary of State