



STATE OF TENNESSEE

# PROCLAMATION

BY THE GOVERNOR

**WHEREAS**, millions of people worldwide have genetic or chromosomal disorders; and

**WHEREAS**, today, testing is available to identify those children and adults who have duplications of the material on their 15<sup>th</sup> chromosome (dup15q) specifically isodicentric, interstitial, mosaic, edge, and microduplications; and

**WHEREAS**, it is important to acknowledge there is a wide range of severity in the developmental disabilities that may be experienced by individuals with these types of duplications; and

**WHEREAS**, here in Tennessee, there are many families that struggle daily with the challenges of Dup15q - typically, delays in gross motor skills, fine motor skills, cognition, and speech and language, as well as diagnosis of autism spectrum disorders and/or attention deficit disorders, seizures, behavioral challenges, and anxiety; and

**WHEREAS**, the Dup15q Alliance, an international organization, was created in 1994 to provide support to families of "Dupers" and to promote research;

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, Bill Haslam, Governor of the State of Tennessee, do hereby proclaim September 13, 2015 as

## *Dup 15q Awareness Day*

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 tenth day of September, 2015.

Handwritten signature of Bill Haslam in blue ink.

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Governor

Handwritten signature of Sue Hight in blue ink.

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Secretary of State