



STATE OF TENNESSEE

# PROCLAMATION

BY THE GOVERNOR

**WHEREAS**, the State of Tennessee is committed to ensuring the safety and security of all those living in and visiting our state; and

**WHEREAS**, the State of Tennessee is committed to providing enduring education to middle and elementary school students; and

**WHEREAS**, youth violence, delinquency, and bullying are concerns both locally and nationally; and

**WHEREAS**, the Gang Resistance Education And Training (G.R.E.A.T.) program is an evidence-based and effective gang and violence prevention program built around school-based, law enforcement officer-instructed classroom curricula; and

**WHEREAS**, the G.R.E.A.T. Program offers a continuum of components for students and their families that focus on providing life skills to help youth avoid bullying, delinquent behaviors, and violence to solve problems; and

**WHEREAS**, the G.R.E.A.T. Pledge, "I pledge to use my G.R.E.A.T. skills to reduce violence in my community, work to resolve conflicts peacefully, and stop bullying whenever I see it," effectively serves to remind students to use these life skills;

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, Bill Haslam, Governor of the State of Tennessee, do hereby proclaim October 19-23, 2015, as

*Choose to Be G.R.E.A.T. 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 thirtieth day of September, 2015.

Handwritten signature of Bill Haslam in blue ink.

Governor

Handwritten signature of Joe Regot in blue ink.

Secretary of State

