



STATE OF TENNESSEE  
**PROCLAMATION**  
BY THE GOVERNOR

**WHEREAS**, dysautonomia is a group of medical conditions that result in a malfunction of the autonomic nervous system, which is responsible for automatic bodily functions such as respiration, heart rate, blood pressure, digestion, temperature control and more; and

**WHEREAS**, some forms of dysautonomia are considered rare diseases, such as Multiple System Atrophy and Pure Autonomic Failure, while other forms of dysautonomia are common, impacting millions of people in the U.S. and around the world, such as Diabetic Autonomic Neuropathy, Neurocardiogenic Syncope and Postural Orthostatic Tachycardia Syndrome; and

**WHEREAS**, dysautonomia impacts people of any age, gender, race or background, including many individuals living in Tennessee; and

**WHEREAS**, some forms of dysautonomia can be very disabling and this disability can result in social isolation, stress on the families of those impacted, and financial hardship; and

**WHEREAS**, some forms of dysautonomia can result in death, causing tremendous pain and suffering for those impacted and their loved ones; and

**WHEREAS**, increased awareness about dysautonomia will help patients get diagnosed and treated earlier, save lives, and foster support for individuals and families coping with dysautonomia in our community; and

**WHEREAS**, Dysautonomia International, a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization that advocates on behalf of patients living with dysautonomia, encourages communities to celebrate Dysautonomia Awareness Month each October around the world; and

**WHEREAS**, the contributions of the professional medical community, including the Vanderbilt Autonomic Dysfunction Center in Nashville, along with the patients and family members who are working to educate our citizenry about dysautonomia in Tennessee, are worthy of recognition;

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, Bill Haslam, Governor of Tennessee, do hereby proclaim the month of October as

*Dysautonomia 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 seventh day of October, 2015.

*Bill Haslam*

Governor

*Lee Hargett*

Secretary of State