



STATE OF TENNESSEE

PROCLAMATION

BY THE GOVERNOR

WHEREAS, the American Red Cross plays a vital role in our community, alleviating suffering in the face of disaster and serving as a true reflection of the humanitarian and volunteer spirit of the American people; and

WHEREAS, during the month of March, the American Red Cross asks all Americans to join its movement and help carry out its lifesaving mission with a gift of time, money or blood; and

WHEREAS, the Red Cross supplies almost half of the nation's blood supply, teaches lifesaving skills, provides international humanitarian aid, supports military members and their families, and supports victims of disaster; and

WHEREAS, for almost 100 years Presidents have called on the American people to support the Red Cross and its humanitarian mission; and

WHEREAS, during World War I, President Woodrow Wilson ordered the Red Cross to begin its first War Fund to support emergency aid to the military, and in response the American Red Cross surpassed its goal of raising \$100 million in one week; and

WHEREAS, in 1943, during World War II, President Franklin D. Roosevelt became the first president to proclaim March as Red Cross Month, and called on Americans to support the Red Cross and its humanitarian mission; and

WHEREAS, every president since Roosevelt followed suit by issuing proclamations designating March as Red Cross Month; and

WHEREAS, the American Red Cross depends on support from the public to continue its humanitarian work, on which our communities depend;

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

AMERICAN RED CROSS 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 15th day of March, 2012.

Governor

Secretary of State