



STATE OF TENNESSEE
PROCLAMATION
BY THE GOVERNOR

WHEREAS, dystonia is a neurological disorder presenting in various forms, characterized by involuntary muscle contractions causing abnormal, often repetitive, movements or postures; and

WHEREAS, such spasms can be disabling and often very painful; and

WHEREAS, while there are treatments for dystonia, there is currently no cure; and

WHEREAS, countless friends, loved ones, spouses, and caregivers must shoulder the physical, emotional, and financial burdens that dystonia causes; and

WHEREAS, the severity of the symptoms of dystonia and the limited public awareness of the disease cause many patients to feel isolated; and

WHEREAS, the dystonia community, including the Essential Blepharospasm Research Foundation; Dystonia, Inc.; the Benign Essential Blepharospasm Research Foundation; the National Spasmodic Dysphonia Association; and the National Spasmodic Torticollis Association, is uniting in an awareness effort throughout the month of September; and

WHEREAS, these organizations are dedicated to conducting research to find treatments and a cure for dystonia, fostering public awareness and understanding of the disorder, and supporting patients and their families;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Bill Haslam, Governor of the State of Tennessee, do hereby proclaim September, 2016 as

Dystonia 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 sixth day of November, 2015.



Bill Haslam

Governor

Joel Hargrett

Secretary of State