



STATE OF TENNESSEE  
**PROCLAMATION**  
BY THE GOVERNOR

**WHEREAS**, the United States responded to the invasion and annexation of Kuwait by Saddam Hussein, along with forces from 34 nations, with Operation Desert Storm; and

**WHEREAS**, since the birth of this great nation, millions of brave American men and women have courageously answered the call to defend their country's ideals of freedom and democracy; and

**WHEREAS**, after five weeks of aerial bombardment, ground troops waged a campaign on the occupying Iraqi forces in Kuwait; and

**WHEREAS**, after four days the city of Kuwait once again raised the Emirate's flag and a cease-fire was called; and

**WHEREAS**, the United States of America were prepared to come to the aid of Saudi Arabia with efficient and effective military technology thanks to the foresight and preparedness of our great Country's Armed Forces; and

**WHEREAS**, twenty five years ago, over 500,000 members of the United States Armed Forces risked their lives in the Persian Gulf to liberate Kuwait during Operation Desert Storm, some making the ultimate sacrifice for their country; and

**WHEREAS**, 146 Americans were killed in support of Operation Desert Storm, which includes five Tennesseans; and

**WHEREAS**, the men and women who served in the United States Armed Forces during Operation Desert Storm have earned the gratitude and respect of their nation; and

**WHEREAS**, the observance of the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Operation Desert Storm allows citizens throughout Tennessee, and across our country, the opportunity to honor those who served during this conflict for their valor and selflessness;

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, Bill Haslam, Governor of the State of Tennessee, do hereby proclaim February 28, 2016 as

*Desert Storm Remembrance 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 twenty-first day of January, 2016.

*Bill Haslam*

Governor

*Jill Wargent*

Secretary of State