



STATE OF TENNESSEE  
**PROCLAMATION**  
BY THE GOVERNOR

**WHEREAS**, many local animal shelters in Tennessee are over capacity; and

**WHEREAS**, approximately 8 to 10 million animals enter shelters nationwide every year, and approximately 3 to 4 million are euthanized, and

**WHEREAS**, all shelter pets need a loving owner and a safe, happy home; and

**WHEREAS**, there are many dogs and cats housed in Tennessee animal shelters that are available and awaiting the opportunity to be an affectionate companion; and

**WHEREAS**, it is also vital to raise awareness of the need for proper spay & neuter programs as well as the importance of providing good veterinary care for our pets; and

**WHEREAS**, Sweetwater Valley Dog Rescue joins with shelters across the state to raise awareness of these important concerns;

**NOW THEREFORE**, I, Governor Bill Haslam of the Great State of Tennessee, do hereby proclaim the month of March, 2016 as

*Adopt A Shelter Pet 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 fifth day of February, 2016.



Handwritten signature of Bill Haslam in blue ink.

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Governor

Handwritten signature of Joe Knight in blue ink.

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Secretary of State