



STATE OF TENNESSEE
PROCLAMATION
BY THE GOVERNOR

WHEREAS, in this economy, there is a growing demand for citizens with proficiency in foreign language and competency in cross-cultural awareness; and

WHEREAS, in order to maintain a competitive edge in career and business opportunities, individuals who make up our workforce need strong language skills to interact with the rest of the world in matters of commerce, diplomacy, science, and cultural exchange; and

WHEREAS, for students, beginning language study early and continuing their study through extended instructional sequence is vital to achieving fluency, with further cognitive benefits seen in greater levels of mental flexibility and creativity among those who have learned a foreign language; and

WHEREAS, a knowledge of other languages allows greater access to information, resulting in an increased choice of resources and a richer base of knowledge; and

WHEREAS, the foreign language classroom is the venue where language and culture are intertwined and students may gain new levels of appreciation and perspective of the world; and

WHEREAS, over one thousand Tennessee foreign language educators are currently working to help students expand their horizons and gain vital knowledge of other languages; and

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Bill Haslam, Governor of the State of Tennessee, do hereby proclaim March 7-13, 2016 as

Foreign Language Week

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 eleventh day of February, 2016.

Bill Haslam

Governor

Joe Mangit

Secretary of State