



STATE OF TENNESSEE  
**PROCLAMATION**  
BY THE GOVERNOR

**WHEREAS**, throughout our state's history through the present day, cowboy poets have played a large role in preserving our western heritage and the culture of Tennessee through poetry; and

**WHEREAS**, the long tradition and enduring qualities of these poems and their stories demonstrate that cowboy poetry is part of a long-cherished legacy; and

**WHEREAS**, each year, Tennessee enthusiastically hosts events including Saddle Up in Pigeon Forge and others; and

**WHEREAS**, Tennessee has produced well-respected cowboy poets;

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, Bill Haslam, Governor of the State of Tennessee, do hereby proclaim April 17-23, 2016 as

*Cowboy Poetry 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 twenty-sixth day of February, 2016.



*Bill Haslam*

Governor

*Lee R. Hight*

Secretary of State