



STATE OF TENNESSEE
PROCLAMATION
BY THE GOVERNOR

WHEREAS, the Vietnam War, fought from 1964 to 1975 finally ended with the complete withdrawal of combat troops on March 30, 1973; and

WHEREAS, with approximately 3,403,000 United States military members deployed to Vietnam, more than 153,000 were wounded and over 58,000 lost their lives; and

WHEREAS, 766 Prisoners of War were taken in Vietnam and 1,624 are still Missing in Action, including 27 Tennesseans, we will remember and honor them with the flying of the POW/MIA flag, encouraged especially on March 29th; and

WHEREAS, a black wall stands in our nation's capital immortalizing the brave Americans who gave all to serve their country in an unpopular war, with names still being added; and

WHEREAS, the homecoming for many members of our Armed Forces did not include the respect, gratitude, and recognition that was deserving of them, and while we cannot correct the shameful way they were treated then, we can honor them now; and

WHEREAS, passing legislation in 2008 to proclaim March 29th as Vietnam Veterans Day, Tennessee became the first state to honor Vietnam Veterans in such a way; and

WHEREAS, almost 1,300 Tennesseans never made it home to their families and friends who we remember and honor today;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Bill Haslam, Governor of the State of Tennessee, do hereby proclaim March 29, 2016 as

Vietnam Veterans 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-second day of February, 2016.



Bill Haslam

Governor

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Secretary of State