



STATE OF TENNESSEE
PROCLAMATION
BY THE GOVERNOR

WHEREAS, September 14, 2016, marks the 202nd anniversary of the writing of The Star-Spangled Banner by Francis Scott Key, a defining moment in the War of 1812, America's second and final war for independence; and

WHEREAS, On March 3, 1931, Key's immortal words were officially declared the National Anthem of the United States of America by House Resolution #14; and

WHEREAS, It was the sight of the large 30 x 42-foot Star-Spangled Banner flag waving over Fort McHenry that directly inspired Francis Scott Key to compose the words of that Anthem; and

WHEREAS, The National Anthem and the American flag have evolved to become the strongest symbols of the spirit and resolve of the American people over the last two centuries; and

WHEREAS, it is important that students learn how the American flag inspired Key to write the National Anthem; and

WHEREAS, the American Public Education Foundation has established the National Anthem Movement to teach students about the words and meaning of the anthem while also providing a meaningful event to celebrate citizenship; and

WHEREAS, on September 9, students from around the country will sing the first stanza of the Star Spangled Banner in unison, commemorating of the unity of our country in the aftermath of the 9/11 terror attacks;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Bill Haslam, Governor of the State of Tennessee, do hereby proclaim September 9, 2016 as

National Anthem 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 eighth day of March, 2016.

Bill Haslam

Governor

John R. Hargett

Secretary of State

