



STATE OF TENNESSEE

PROCLAMATION

BY THE GOVERNOR

WHEREAS, native wildlife populations are an integral part of Tennessee's natural environment, and serve as an indicator for the overall health of Tennessee's statewide ecosystems; and

WHEREAS, each year in the U.S. more than 200 people are killed in wildlife-vehicle collisions, 26,000 are injured and more than 1.5 million animals are hit on roads; and

WHEREAS, the average cost of property damage from these collisions is over \$1 billion, and the total cost to society annually is \$8.4 billion; and

WHEREAS, the success of wildlife movement and survival in Tennessee remains dependent upon continued public education and increased understanding of the essential role migration corridors play in wildlife movement; and

WHEREAS, wildlife watching is one of the most popular outdoor recreational activities for tourists in Tennessee;

NOW THEREFORE, I, Bill Haslam, Governor of the State of Tennessee hereby proclaim the third week in September

WATCH OUT FOR WILDLIFE AWARENESS 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 25th day of August, 2011.

Governor

Secretary of State

