



STATE OF TENNESSEE

PROCLAMATION

BY THE GOVERNOR

WHEREAS, on November 29, 1947, the United Nations General Assembly voted to partition the British Mandate of Palestine and through that vote led to the creation and declaration of the modern State of Israel on May 14, 1948; and

WHEREAS, the desire of the Jewish people to establish an independent State of Israel was the outgrowth of the existence of the historic Kingdom of Israel established 3,000 years ago in the city of Jerusalem; and

WHEREAS, the State of Israel, the only democracy in the Middle East, is the greatest friend and ally of the United States in the Middle East; and

WHEREAS, since its establishment 70 years ago, the modern State of Israel has rebuilt a nation, forged a new and dynamic society, and created a unique and vital economic, political, cultural, and intellectual life despite the heavy costs of six wars, terrorism, international ostracism, and economic boycotts; and

WHEREAS, Israel and the United States have a shared commitment to freedom, peace, security, and civil rights for all of their citizens; and

WHEREAS, there is a special bond of friendship between the citizens of Tennessee and Israel that inspires the people of Tennessee to stand with the people of Israel in solidarity where we welcome all opportunities to grow the already deep relationship at all levels, including through cultural, academic, and business endeavors; and

WHEREAS, I, as Governor of the State of Tennessee, had the privilege to visit the State of Israel in 2015 and witnessed firsthand the tremendous accomplishments of the Israeli nation over the past 70 years; and

WHEREAS, the State of Israel celebrated its 70th anniversary, Yom Ha'atzmaut, on April 19, 2018 and the Jewish Federation of Nashville and Middle Tennessee, the Jewish Federation of Greater Chattanooga, the Knoxville Jewish Alliance and the Memphis Jewish Federation have joined with Ambassador Judith Varnai Shorer, Consul General of Israel to the Southeastern United States to commemorate this landmark occasion with "Israel at 70" celebrations across the State of Tennessee;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Bill Haslam Governor of the State of Tennessee, do hereby proclaim April 29, 2018 as

70th Anniversary of the State of Israel 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 tenth day of April, 2018.

Governor

Secretary of State

