WHEREAS, this year marks the 18th annual Earth Science Week, which is designated by the American Geosciences Institute to help the public gain a better understanding of and appreciation for the earth sciences; and

WHEREAS, the theme for 2015, "Visualizing Earth Systems," will promote awareness of the many ways scientists monitor and represent information about Earth systems including land, air, water, and living things; and

WHEREAS, geology and the other earth sciences are fundamental to the safety, health, and welfare of Tennesseans and to the economy of Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, the earth sciences are integral to finding, developing and conserving mineral, energy, and water resources needed for Tennessee's continuing prosperity; and

WHEREAS, the earth sciences provide the basis for preparing for and mitigating natural hazards such as floods, landslides, earthquakes, indoor radon, and sinkholes experienced in Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, the earth sciences are crucial to environmental and ecological issues ranging from water and air quality to waste disposal; and

WHEREAS, geological factors pertaining to earth resources, hazards and the environment are vital to land management and land use decisions made in Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, the earth sciences contribute critical pieces to our understanding, appreciation and respect for nature; and

WHEREAS, Earth Science Week is an opportunity to seek a greater understanding and appreciation of the value of earth science research and for science teachers at all levels throughout the state of Tennessee to undertake lessons and activities with their students directed toward the study of earth science;

NOW THEREFORE, I, Bill Haslam, Governor of the State of Tennessee, do hereby proclaim the week of October 11-17, 2015 as Earth Science 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 fourth day of September, 2015.

[Signature]
Governor

[Signature]
Secretary of State