

## EXECUTIVE ORDER

## BY THE GOVERNOR

No. 10

## AN ORDER ESTABLISHING THE GOVERNOR'S CHILDREN'S CABINET

WHEREAS, the children of Tennessee are one of this state's greatest assets; and

WHEREAS, one of state government's highest priorities is to provide needed services and opportunities to our state's children; and

WHEREAS, future success of our state relies on our ability to give Tennessee's children access to the tools and opportunities that will support their development into mature, well-balanced, healthy, and productive members of our society; and

WHEREAS, this administration embraces its role in serving and supporting Tennessee's children; and

WHEREAS, many departments and agencies of state government lead programs that are important to the success and well-being of Tennessee's children; and

WHEREAS, shared policy, planning, coordination, cooperation, and collaboration across these state departments and the programs they administer will further strengthen resources and opportunities available to Tennessee's children; and

WHEREAS, shared policy, planning, coordination, cooperation, and collaboration are core values embraced by this administration;

NOW THEREFORE, I, Bill Haslam, Governor of the State of Tennessee, by virtue of the power and authority vested in me by the Tennessee Constitution and law, do hereby order and direct that:

- 1. The Governor's Children's Cabinet is hereby established. The Children's Cabinet is charged with coordinating, streamlining, and enhancing the state's efforts to provide needed resources and services to Tennessee's children. The Children's Cabinet shall take such action as is necessary to fulfill its charge. In performing its work, the Children's Cabinet shall focus on a broad range of issues, including but not limited to children's: physical health; mental health; education; safety; and overall well-being.
- 2. The Children's Cabinet shall have members consisting of the following individuals:

- a. The Governor and First Lady, co-chairs;
- b. The Commissioner of the Department of Children's Services;
- c. The Commissioner of the Department of Education;
- d. The Commissioner of the Department of Health;
- e. The Commissioner of the Department of Human Services;
- f. The Commissioner of the Department of Mental Health;
- g. The Deputy Commissioner leading the Bureau of TennCare; and
- h. Such other individuals as the Governor, from time to time, deems necessary to fulfill the functions of the Cabinet.
- 3. The Children's Cabinet will engage citizen and stakeholder advisory groups as needed to explore and offer recommendations for policy, strategy, or program enhancements.
- 4. The Children's Cabinet shall convene for its initial meeting on February 9, 2012. Thereafter, the Children's Cabinet shall meet at such times and places as determined by the co-chairs.
- 5. The Children's Cabinet shall be attached to the Office of the Governor for administrative purposes.
- 6. All Executive branch departments, agencies, boards, and commissions and any other divisions of the Executive branch of state government shall fully cooperate with the Children's Cabinet and shall provide staff support and other assistance, as requested.
- 7. This Order hereby replaces Executive Order No. 7 issued by former Governor Phil Bredesen on March 18, 2003.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have subscribed my signature and caused the Great Seal of the State of Tennessee to be affixed this \_\_\_\_\_ day of January, 2012.

GOVERNOR

ATTEST

SECRETARY OF STATE