

A Proclamation  
By  
Governor Ronnie Musgrove

**WHEREAS**, more than 35,000 citizens of the State of Mississippi have mental retardation/developmental disabilities; and

**WHEREAS**, many individuals with mental retardation/developmental disabilities are achieving independence, productivity and integration in their respective communities; and

**WHEREAS**, individuals with mental retardation/developmental disabilities are entitled to enjoy, participate in and share the same benefits, privileges and protection afforded other citizens of our state and nation; and

**WHEREAS**, individuals with mental retardation/developmental disabilities in conjunction with family members, advocacy groups, governmental agencies, and service organizations are attempting to educate the general public about their abilities and contributions to their communities; and

**WHEREAS**, individuals with mental retardation/developmental disabilities deserve the total support, recognition, and acceptance of all citizens of the State of Mississippi:

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, Ronnie Musgrove, Governor of the State of Mississippi, hereby proclaim March 2003 as

**MENTAL RETARDATION/DEVELOPMENTAL  
DISABILITIES AWARENESS MONTH**

in the State of Mississippi.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Mississippi to be affixed.

DONE in the City of Jackson, December 11, 2002, in the two hundred and twenty-sixth year of the United States of America.

RONNIE MUSGROVE  
GOVERNOR