

A Proclamation
By
Governor Ronnie Musgrove

WHEREAS, arson is a serious crime that affects all people and can only be stopped when citizens realize the toll it takes on communities and the physical and emotional damage suffered by arson victims; and

WHEREAS, arson is a serious national problem causing an estimated 500 deaths and \$2,000,000,000 in property damage each year; and

WHEREAS, over half of the arsons in the country are caused by juveniles and young children; and

WHEREAS, arson is frequently used as an act of terrorism and brutality; and

WHEREAS, cities, communities, and neighborhoods are blighted by arson resulting in the erosion of the tax base, the community's economic structure, and the loss of employers and jobs; and

WHEREAS, the support and promotion of National Arson Awareness Week will honor all that is best within humanity by focusing our collective efforts on a community solutions:

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Ronnie Musgrove, Governor of the State of Mississippi, do hereby proclaim May 4 through May 10, 2003, as

NATIONAL ARSON AWARENESS WEEK

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, May 1, 2003 in the two hundred and twenty-sixth year of the United States of America.

RONNIE MUSGROVE
GOVERNOR