

A Proclamation
By
Governor Ronnie Musgrove

WHEREAS, hospice care is the most humane tradition of health service delivery in the United States, providing 24-hour palliative medical care and social, emotional, and spiritual services for the terminally ill, as well as support for the family; and

WHEREAS, hospice care helps patients live fully during their final days by enabling them to remain in the comfort and security of home or home-like settings while alleviating the fears associated with terminal illness such as dying in pain, alone, and as a burden to the family; and

WHEREAS, more than 39,000 full-time professionals and 100,000 volunteers in association with an estimated 3,000 hospices work together to serve more than 390,000 individuals throughout the nation; and

WHEREAS, these dedicated men and women form a valuable network of end-of-life support in our nation's vast health care system and are deserving of special honor and appreciation for their many contributions; and

WHEREAS, an increase in public awareness and understanding of hospice care will better serve the families who are faced with a terminal illness in our community and help ensure that hospice services are a guaranteed benefit for all citizens; and

WHEREAS, the **Sta-home Hospice of Mississippi** has joined the Hospice Association of America, the National Hospice Organization, and an estimated 3,000 hospice agencies, in declaring the month of November 2002 as National Hospice Month and are calling on all Americans to observe this occasion with appropriate ceremonies and activities:

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Ronnie Musgrove, Governor of the State of Mississippi, hereby proclaim November 2002 as

NATIONAL HOSPICE 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, October 21, 2002, in the two hundred and twenty-sixth year of the United States of America.

RONNIE MUSGROVE
GOVERNOR