

A Proclamation
By
Governor Ronnie Musgrove

WHEREAS, According to a 1996 study by the C.D.C., 16 percent of 6 million-plus pregnancies ended in either a miscarriage or a stillbirth, that's almost a million perinatal losses. Of those 6 million plus pregnancies, 62 percent (3,720,000) ended in live births, and 26,784 of those births ended in infant deaths from 11 months and younger. This does not reflect the 22 percent who are lost to abortion; and

WHEREAS, the availability of information and support is of the utmost importance to families who suffer from Pregnancy and Infant Loss to better help them cope; and

WHEREAS, a public informed and educated about Pregnancy and Infant Loss can better learn how to respond with compassion to affected families; and

WHEREAS, professionals who come in contact with families who have suffered Pregnancy or Infant Loss, such as physicians, clergy, emergency medical technicians, funeral directors, police officers, public health nurses, and employers, can better serve families if they have special training and better knowledge of Pregnancy and Infant Loss; and

WHEREAS, a Pregnancy and Infant Loss Remembrance Day, October 15, 2002, is set aside to remember all of the Pregnancies and Infants lost in order to heal and be comforted in a time of pain and heartache, and to have hope for the future;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Ronnie Musgrove, Governor of the State of Mississippi, hereby proclaim October 15, 2003, as

Pregnancy and Infant Loss Remembrance Day

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, July 15, 2003,
in the two hundred and twenty-seventh year
of the United States of America.

RONNIE MUSGROVE
GOVERNOR