

A Proclamation
By
Governor Ronnie Musgrove

WHEREAS, Mercy Ships was developed in 1978 and holds a vision of serving at least one million people per year by bringing hope and healing to the world's most poor and needy; and

WHEREAS, as a charitable Christian relief and development organization, Mercy Ships sails around the globe providing medical care, relief aid, and long-term sustainable change—the State of Mississippi and the Mississippi State Port Authority at Gulfport supports these humanitarian efforts among our trading partners in the Caribbean Basin; and

WHEREAS, the *Caribbean Mercy*, one of Mercy Ships' three vessels, will be returning to dock with Mississippi State Port Authority at Gulfport, now their official Home Port, on December 6, 2002; and

WHEREAS, Mississippi and the Mississippi State Port Authority at Gulfport are proud to be a part of this great effort and look forward to a successful and productive relationship with Mercy Ships as we work together to improve the quality of life of all people:

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Ronnie Musgrove, Governor of the State of Mississippi, hereby proclaim December 6, 2002, as the annual

MERCY SHIPS HOMECOMING

in the State of Mississippi and urge all Mississippians to welcome these great humanitarians to our state as they prepare to embark on another voyage to make a difference in the world.

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 5, 2002, in the two hundred and twenty-sixth year of the United States of America.

RONNIE MUSGROVE
GOVERNOR