

A Proclamation  
By  
Governor Ronnie Musgrove

**WHEREAS**, the nearly 2.7 million registered nurses in the United States comprise our nation's largest health care profession; and

**WHEREAS**, the depth and breadth of the registered nursing profession meets the different and emerging health care needs of the American population in a wide range of settings; and

**WHEREAS**, the American Nurses Association, as the voice for the registered nurses of this country, is working to chart a new course for a healthy nation that relies on increasing delivery of primary and preventative health care; and

**WHEREAS**, a renewed emphasis on primary and preventive health care will require the better utilization of all of our nation's registered nursing resources; and

**WHEREAS**, professional nursing has been demonstrated to be an indispensable component in the safety and quality of care of hospitalized patients; and

**WHEREAS**, the demand for registered nursing services will be greater than ever because of the aging of the American population, the continuing expansion of life-sustaining technology, and the explosive growth of home health care services; and

**WHEREAS**, more qualified registered nurses will be needed in the future to meet the increasingly complex needs of health care consumers in this community; and

**WHEREAS**, the cost-effective, safe, and quality health care services provided by registered nurses will be an ever more important component of the U.S. health care delivery system in the future:

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, Ronnie Musgrove, Governor of the State of Mississippi, hereby proclaim May 6 through May 12, 2003, as

**NATIONAL NURSES WEEK**

in the State of Mississippi with the theme "Nurses: Lifting Spirits, Touching Lives" in celebration of the ways in which registered nurses strive to provide safe and high quality patient care and map out the way to improve our health care system.

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, April 29, 2003, in the two hundred and twenty-sixth year of the United States of America.

RONNIE MUSGROVE  
GOVERNOR