

A Proclamation
By
Governor Ronnie Musgrove

WHEREAS, Samuel Tucker was born February 5, 1933, in Rockdale, Texas, to Tabitha Stewart and Dallas Tucker, as the youngest of three boys and one girl and was raised by his Grandmother Pearl who died at age 108; and

WHEREAS, Sam attended Aycock School in Rockdale, Texas, and graduated Magna Cum Laude in 1952—he went on to complete one year of Music Education at Texas Southern University in Houston before joining the Army where he was stationed in Arkansas, South Carolina, and Fort Bragg, North Carolina, until he received an honorable discharge from the military in 1956; and

WHEREAS, he then moved with his family to Elkhart, Indiana, where he worked nights and studied Sociology at Goshen College during the day, he graduated from Goshen College in 1959 with a Bachelor of Science Degree—in 1961, Sam moved his family to Detroit, Michigan, where he attended Wayne State University to receive his Masters Degree in Social Work; and

WHEREAS, Sam's career path in Social Work started at Neighborhood Service Organizations in Detroit, Michigan, with street gangs and led to his becoming a Poverty Work Supervisor for a number of years—he went on to become an Associate Professor at Wayne State University in the Group Work Department and Associate Professor at the University of Michigan, working with behavior problem children; and

WHEREAS, Sam went on to work in a variety of position within social work and politics and traveled abroad to teach in Turkey (Istanbul), Germany, and Italy, directed by the University of Maryland Extension Program in Doctoral Studies—he returned to the United States and resumed his work as Director at St. Peter Claver Settlement House, he remained one additional year with St. Peter before departing Detroit for the University of Southern Mississippi in Hattiesburg in 1973; and

WHEREAS, at the inception of the Graduate School of Social Work in 1973, Sam was the first black faculty member—he was instrumental in helping the Graduate School of Social Work to secure its Master accreditation status under the deanships of Drs. Lester Glick and Shirley Jones—from 1978 to 1980, Sam studied for his doctorate in social work at Tulane University in New Orleans but returned to Southern Miss in 1981; and

WHEREAS, in 1986, Sam resigned from the University of Southern Mississippi and took a position in the Graduate School of Social Work at Grambling State University as its new Assistant Graduate Dean and Graduate Professor—Sam retired from Grambling State University in the summer of 1998 and was asked to return to work part-time at Southern Miss's Graduate School of Social Work to help fill a faculty vacancy, where he worked until the summer of 2000; and

WHEREAS, Sam has been married to his loving wife, Jewel Brantley Tucker for the past 35 years—they have three children, Steven, Tracey and Sethe and four granddaughters Mercedes, Gabrielle, Chesnee and Tristen—from Street Gang Worker to consulting and advising politicians to victory—Sam has been active in a number of roles and has received the highest honors of various groups of social workers and the Boy Scouts—he is also an active member of Mt. Olive Baptist Church; and

WHEREAS, on November 24, 2002, Samuel Tucker will be honored as *Citizen of the Year* by the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity in Hattiesburg, Mississippi for his dedication to education and service in his community:

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Ronnie Musgrove, Governor of the State of Mississippi, hereby proclaim November 24, 2002, as

SAMUEL TUCKER 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, November 21, 2002, in the two hundred and twenty-sixth year of the United States of America.

RONNIE MUSGROVE

GOVERNOR