

A Proclamation  
By  
Governor Ronnie Musgrove

**WHEREAS**, the Court Appointed Special Advocate programs have established a distinguished record of public service through their work to enhance the quality of life for children; and

**WHEREAS**, there are fifteen CASA programs throughout the State of Mississippi; and

**WHEREAS**, CASA volunteers come from a variety of professional, educational and ethnic backgrounds and act as advocates for children who are victims of abuse and/or neglect in the complicated, unfamiliar and often frightening court and child welfare systems; and

**WHEREAS**, the court appoints CASA volunteers to serve as officers of the court, helping to improve the quality of information presented to the court by acting as the court's eyes and ears in the child's life; and

**WHEREAS**, April 2002 is named Child Abuse Prevention and Awareness Month, an observance that reflects the purpose of CASA programs, to protect and defend children from harm and ensure that abused and neglected children are provided with the court ordered services they need:

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, Ronnie Musgrove, Governor of the State of Mississippi, hereby proclaim April 13, 2002, as

**CASA Child Advocate Day**

in the State of Mississippi and I urge all citizens to join me in this observance.

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, March 12, 2002, in the two hundred and twenty-fifth year of the United States of America.

RONNIE MUSGROVE  
GOVERNOR