

A Proclamation
By
Governor Ronnie Musgrove

WHEREAS, the World Trade Centers Association (WTCA) is a dynamic and growing not-for-profit, non-political membership organization consisting of 302 World Trade Centers servicing 750,000 businesses in 91 countries; and

WHEREAS, the WTCA was founded in 1970 by WTCA President Guy Tozzoli and headquartered in New York City with a mission to support the establishment and successful operation of individual World Trade Centers as part of an extensive worldwide network to enhance trade, promote economic development, and foster peace; and

WHEREAS, today, there is a Mississippi World Trade Center which promotes, facilitates and enhances the state's international trade position; and

WHEREAS, Mississippi's location and infrastructure investments give it significant competitive advantage for the transportation and distribution of goods and services to and from international markets; and

WHEREAS, Mississippi's manufacturing, agricultural, and service businesses produce quality products that have international appeal and value; and

WHEREAS, World Trade Centers are playing increasingly vital roles; engaging the power of reciprocity; serving as one-stop shopping centers; matching the needs of individual businesses with specific market information, research, and other tools; and stimulating and facilitating trade among businesses across geographic regions; and

WHEREAS, World Trade Centers serve as landmarks of commerce and add increased economic value to their respective regions; and

WHEREAS, World Trade Centers not only serve to spur trade but also foster peace and stability through trade; and

WHEREAS, the WTCA has pioneered and introduced the use of state-of-the-art technology, such as internet-based communications, electronic bulletin boards and databases, providing to its members access to enriched market research and trading opportunities; and

WHEREAS, the WTCA has used emerging technology to connect members with a wide range of programs and services, including trade education, exhibit facilities for product showcases, sponsoring international trade missions and conferences, providing consumer and business services; and

WHEREAS, the worldwide network of World Trade Centers has chosen the second Wednesday in June to celebrate its work and have each World Trade Center recognize a company or individual in their region which best represents the WTCA goals and purpose and whose name will be given worldwide publicity and place in a "Book of Honor;"

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Ronnie Musgrove, Governor of the State of Mississippi, hereby proclaim June 12, 2002, as

WORLD TRADE CENTERS ASSOCIATION 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, March 7, 2002, in the two hundred and twenty-fifth year of the United States of America.

RONNIE MUSGROVE
GOVERNOR