

A Proclamation
By
Governor Ronnie Musgrove

WHEREAS, February 10-16, 2002, has been declared National Child Passenger Safety Week; and

WHEREAS, year after year, an average of 50 children from infancy to 12 years of age are killed and 3,000 are injured in Mississippi motor vehicle crashes; and

WHEREAS, parents and guardians must make sure that children age 12 and under always ride in the back seat, buckled up in properly installed child safety seats, and a rear facing child seat should never be placed in the front seat of a motor vehicle equipped with a passenger air bag; and

WHEREAS, although child passenger protection laws that require proper restraints for younger children and seat belt use by older children exists in every state and the District of Columbia, 58 percent of Mississippi children under five involved in fatal crashes are still not properly restrained; and

WHEREAS, families and communities should work with their legislators to improve the laws and make it easier for law enforcement officers to enforce them:

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Ronnie Musgrove, Governor of the State of Mississippi, hereby proclaim February 10-16, 2002, as

CHILD PASSENGER SAFETY AWARENESS WEEK

in the State of Mississippi and urge everyone to help reduce injuries and the tragic loss of life on our highways by buckling up every child in an approved restraint in the vehicle's back seat. Let us all help to spread this important child safety message throughout our communities. By doing so, we can save many lives. I call upon all citizens, government agencies, public and private institutions, businesses, hospitals and schools in Mississippi to observe this week with appropriate activities.

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, January 1, 2002, in the two hundred and twenty-fifth year of the United States of America.

(retyped Jan. 30, 02 accidentally deleted original.)

RONNIE MUSGROVE
GOVERNOR