

A Proclamation  
By  
Governor Ronnie Musgrove

**WHEREAS**, the State of Mississippi has long been concerned with the health of its citizens; and

**WHEREAS**, chronic lung diseases, known collectively as Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease (COPD), are the fourth leading cause of death in the United States; and

**WHEREAS**, chronic obstructive pulmonary diseases cost the United States an estimated \$31.9 billion a year; and

**WHEREAS**, 16 million people in the United States have been diagnosed with some form of COPD with a similar number undiagnosed; and

**WHEREAS**, awareness, early detection and treatment are crucial in the prevention or slowing of the spread of lung disease in this country; and

**WHEREAS**, the citizens of Mississippi deserve the opportunity to grow, thrive, be healthy and be informed and aware of their respiratory health and of the factors that affect that health:

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, Ronnie Musgrove, Governor of the State of Mississippi, hereby proclaim November 2003 as

**CHRONIC OBSTRUCTIVE PULMONARY DISEASE  
AWARENESS MONTH**

in the State of Mississippi to raise public awareness about the prevalence of Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease and the serious problems associated with the disease.

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, September 19, 2003, in the two hundred and twenty-seventh year of the United States of America.

RONNIE MUSGROVE  
GOVERNOR