

A Proclamation  
By  
Governor Ronnie Musgrove

**WHEREAS**, the American Legion was organized in 1919 and is composed of veterans of the armed forces of the United States—there are 89 Senior Auxiliaries and 88 Junior Auxiliaries in the State of Mississippi; and

**WHEREAS**, during World War I, poppies covered the landscape of the ravaged battlefields of Belgium—the pretty little flower grew wild, even surrounded by death and destruction, serving as a reminder of the blood shed during that and future wars—in 1921, the American Legion Auxiliary adopted the poppy as the organization’s memorial flower and pledged its use to the benefit of our servicemen and their families; and

**WHEREAS**, the American Legion hosts a Miss Poppy and Little Miss Poppy Contest every year for Junior members of the American Legion Auxiliary between the ages of 6 and 18; and

**WHEREAS**, participants in the Miss Poppy and Little Miss Poppy Contest must complete a number of requirements such as the Scrapbook Entry, which highlights the accomplishments of each contestant throughout the year and her service to veterans and the community—the focus of the event is to promote the American Legion Auxiliary Poppy; and

**WHEREAS**, trophies are presented to the Miss Poppy and Little Miss Poppy winners at the State Convention and are submitted to Nationals for judging:

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, Ronnie Musgrove, Governor of the State of Mississippi, do hereby proclaim June 15, 2002, as

**Miss Poppy and Little Miss Poppy 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, May 7, 2002, in the two hundred and twenty-fifth year of the United States of America.

RONNIE MUSGROVE  
GOVERNOR