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Governor Musgrove Proclaims “Fire Prevention Week”

(Jackson, MS) – Governor Ronnie Musgrove has proclaimed the week of October 5, 2003, as “Fire Prevention Week” to encourage Mississippians to participate in fire prevention activities at home, work and school to make their homes and families safe from fire.

“We are committed to reducing fire related deaths and injuries in Mississippi,” said Musgrove. “Taking simple safety precautions, such as identifying and removing everyday home fire hazards, can help prevent the majority of fires in homes and deaths and injuries related to those fires.”

Eighty-five percent of all U.S. fire deaths occur in the home. Fire safety education has contributed to a substantial decrease in fire death rates for the nation over the past twenty years, from over 6,000 per year in 1970, to fewer than 4,000 in 2000.

“The firefighters of our state put their lives on the line each and every time that respond to a call. It is appropriate that each year during Fire Prevention Week we recognize the sacrifices they make to protect our citizens and make our state a safer place to live,” said Robert Latham, executive director of the Mississippi Emergency Management Agency.

Everyone can help save lives by developing a home fire escape plan and practicing it twice a year with every member of the household, conduct a home hazard hunt, and install and test smoke alarms.

For more information please contact the National Fire Protection Association at www.nfpa.org.

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