

A Proclamation
By
Governor Ronnie Musgrove

WHEREAS, James N. Goldsmith was elected to the position of VFW Commander-in-Chief on August 24, 2001, at the organization's 102nd national convention, held in Milwaukee, Wisconsin; and

WHEREAS, Goldsmith served in the U.S. Army from November 1965 to August 1967, with duty in Vietnam as an engineer from April 1966 to August 1967. He received a Vietnam Campaign Medal, Vietnam Service Medal, National Defense Medal, Army Good Conduct Medal and a Rifle Sharpshooter Badge; and

WHEREAS, he joined the VFW at Post 5666 in 1967. He was an All State Post Commander in 1974. In 1977, he earned recognition as an All State and All American District Commander; and

WHEREAS, in 1978, Goldsmith was selected as Michigan's "Young Veteran of the Year," and in 1980, became the first Vietnam veteran to be elected Department Junior Vice Commander. He earned All American status as a Department Commander, 1982-1983; and

WHEREAS, Goldsmith is deeply concerned for the welfare of our active duty and reserve military forces, and has traveled worldwide listening to the needs of U.S. service men and women. As a result of these many discussions, he lists quality of life and defense readiness issues among his top priorities; and

WHEREAS, while employed in the AC Spark Plug Division of General Motors, Goldsmith was instrumental in establishing a veterans committee in UAW Local 651, and served as the committee chairman for 17 years. He retired from General Motors in 1997 after 35 years of service; and

WHEREAS, Goldsmith has served on several national committees and is a member of the American Legion, Moose Lodge, Lapeer Eagles and a Life Member of the Military Order of the Cooties. He is a Life Member of VFW Post 4139 in Lapeer, Michigan. He has one son, one stepson and three grandchildren:

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Ronnie Musgrove, Governor of the State of Mississippi, hereby proclaim January 19, 2002, as

JAMES N. GOLDSMITH 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, January 3, 2002, in the two hundred and twenty-fifth year of the United States of America.

RONNIE MUSGROVE
GOVERNOR