

A Proclamation
By
Governor Ronnie Musgrove

WHEREAS, the State of Mississippi is joining the Nation to recognize and honor older citizens, our fastest growing population, for their continued contributions to the state and nation and call attention to the issues that affect them most; and

WHEREAS, *America: A Community for All Ages*, is the theme chosen for Older Americans Month 2002, in recognition of the national community in which we live, and in tribute to the American family which is the strength of our nation; and

WHEREAS, families, our greatest hope for the future, span generations, offering us comfort, security and sustenance; and

WHEREAS, older members of our families—grandparents, parents, relatives and even neighbors—provide us with the historical perspective that enable us to contribute to our nation's greatness and prosperity as so many have done before; and

WHEREAS, it is this multi-generational perspective upon which we must continue to build, working to ensure health and human services reach across generations, recognizing that stronger multi-generational programs result in stronger individuals who are more connected to their communities, thereby creating a stronger nation overall; and

WHEREAS, we must build upon the success that has already been achieved through the aging network so that all older Americans can lead engaged and productive lives in their communities; and

WHEREAS, the Mississippi Department of Human Services/ Division of Aging and Adult Services joins the nation in observing the Month of May in honor of Mississippi's older citizens:

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

OLDER AMERICANS MONTH

in the State of Mississippi and encourage all citizens to honor the senior citizens of our state and to join me in raising awareness about new challenges and growing needs of, *America: A Community for All Ages*, not only during May, but all year long.

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, April 22, 2002, in the two hundred and twenty-fifth year of the United States of America.

RONNIE MUSGROVE
GOVERNOR