**For Immediate Release** September 24, 2003 Contact: Shannon McMullan 601-359-3227

## Governor Musgrove Proclaims "Yellow Ribbon Suicide Awareness and Prevention Week"

(Jackson, MS) – Governor Ronnie Musgrove has proclaimed September 21<sup>st</sup> through September 27<sup>th</sup> 2003, as "Yellow Ribbon Suicide Awareness and Prevention Week" to acknowledge the alarming national rate of youth suicides and to raise awareness and promote prevention in Mississippi.

"Statistics show that awareness, education and action saves lives and community awareness will encourage development of strategies to prevent suicides," said Musgrove. "Mississippi is pleased to be at the forefront leading these worthwhile efforts."

The Yellow Ribbon is rapidly becoming recognized internationally as the symbol for the awareness and prevention of suicide and it is recognized and used by suicide prevention groups, crisis centers, schools, churches, youth centers/hospitals, counselors, teachers, parents and especially youth themselves.

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