## A Proclamation By Governor Ronnie Musgrove

WHEREAS, homeownership is the American Dream, and it is close to the heart of Mississippi—there is a special power in a neighborhood where most families own their homes—a new homeowner receives a key that does more than unlock a door: it represents a place where children can grow, learn, and feel safe; an opportunity to save money and build equity for the future; and a sense of stability and belonging to the greater community, and just as it builds strong families, homeownership is the building block of strong communities too; and

**WHEREAS**, the State of Mississippi is committed to helping more citizens, especially those who have been shut out in the past, know the joy, the financial security, and the sense of community that comes with owning their own home; and

WHEREAS, the Mississippi Development Authority, in conjunction with the Department of Housing and Urban Development, is providing families with tools and information they can use to overcome the barriers that deny homeownership to far too many Mississippians—MDA is working in partnership with local governments, community groups, and the private sector to make the most effective use of these funds—through a combination of housing counseling, down payment assistance, and tax incentives we are helping more Mississippians buy homes and live the lives they had once only imagined; and

**WHEREAS**, homeownership is good for the homebuyer, the State of Mississippi, and our country—it is the American Dream, and during National Homeownership Month, we rededicate ourselves to that dream and to every Mississippian who seeks to achieve it:

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

## **HOMEOWNERSHIP MONTH**

in the State of Mississippi and call upon all Mississippians to join me in recognizing the importance of providing every citizen with the opportunity to achieve their own American Dream.

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 31, 2002, in the two hundred and twenty-fifth year of the United States of America.

RONNIE MUSGROVE GOVERNOR