A Proclamation By Governor Ronnie Musgrove

WHEREAS, our nation's libraries and librarians play a vital role in connecting millions of people with the resources they need to live, learn and work in the 21st Century; and

WHEREAS, libraries are changing and dynamic places. Librarians are techno-savvy, on the forefront of the information age. In a world that's information rich, they are information smart, and help ensure a society where everyone is information literate. You'll find the right answer @ your library; and

WHEREAS, libraries are places of opportunity. Libraries are part of the American dream. They are a place for education and self-help, and because they offer free access to all, they bring opportunity to all; and

WHEREAS, libraries bring you the world. Libraries are unique. In person. Online. Where else can you have access to nearly anything on the Web or in print as well as personal service and assistance in finding it; and

WHEREAS, awareness and support must be increased for libraries by increasing the visibility of libraries in a positive context and by communicating clearly and strongly why libraries are both unique and valuable; and

WHEREAS, librarians must be brought to the table at public policy discussions on key issues, such as intellectual freedom, equity of access, and narrowing the digital divide; and

WHEREAS, more individuals must be recruited to the profession of librarianship; and

WHEREAS, the entire library community will be stronger when speaking with one unified voice; and

WHEREAS, libraries and library supporters across America and beyond are celebrating National Library Week with The Campaign for America's Libraries, "@ your library":

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Ronnie Musgrove, Governor of the State of Mississippi, hereby proclaim April 14-20, 2002

NATIONAL LIBRARY WEEK

in the State of Mississippi and I encourage all residents to use their library for the purpose of improving their lives. Come see what's new @ your library.

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 14, 2002, in the two hundred and twenty-fifth year of the United States of America.