

A Proclamation
By
Governor Ronnie Musgrove

WHEREAS, breastfeeding is a human right, an important and basic act of nurture, and a basic standard for health, growth, and development for mother and babies; and

WHEREAS, in order to receive the greatest benefits from breastfeeding, women should be encouraged and supported to breastfeed their children exclusively for about six months and to continue breastfeeding, with complimentary food, well into the second year or beyond; and

WHEREAS, numerous international treaties and agreements, as well as national, state, and local laws and ordinances recognize the right of mothers to breastfeed; and

WHEREAS, women should not be discriminated against nor be prevented from breastfeeding; and

WHEREAS, governments and communities have the legal and/or moral duty to ensure that there are no obstacles for women who wish to breastfeed; and

WHEREAS, World Breastfeeding Week reminds us that breastfeeding is a human right through its annual celebration with the theme for 2003 of ‘Breastfeeding in a Globalized World’.

NOW, THEREFORE, I Ronnie Musgrove, Governor of the State of Mississippi, do hereby proclaim that August 1 - 7, 2003 will be known as

BREASTFEEDING WEEK

in the State of Mississippi.

I further proclaim that August 2003 will be known as

BREASTFEEDING AWARENESS MONTH

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, July 23, 2003, in the two hundred and twenty-seventh year of the United States of America.

RONNIE MUSGROVE
GOVERNOR