

A Proclamation  
by  
Governor Ronnie Musgrove

**WHEREAS**, the citizens of Mississippi are proud to join in celebrating milestones that are meaningful to the residents of our State and Nation; during February 2000, our Nation marks the 75<sup>th</sup> annual observance of African-American History Month and in light of this landmark occasion, Mississippians share in the commemoration of this special event; and

**WHEREAS**, in celebrating the theme, "*Heritage and Horizons: The African-American Legacy and the Challenges of the 21<sup>st</sup> Century*," this year's celebration pays tribute to the rich history of African Americans and the ancestral homeland from which many of their cherished customs and traditions are derived; by exploring a legacy forged throughout the centuries by preceding generations, the African-American community bestows upon future generations, a sense of history that is reinforced by an enduring heritage; and

**WHEREAS**, this occasion offers all of us the opportunity to study the accomplishments and achievements of African Americans throughout history; as a people with an impressive and important role in our Nation's past, African Americans are recognized as having benefitted our lives through their social and cultural contributions; moreover, they continue to play a vital role within their communities, serving as examples of the spirit of determination and perseverance that characterizes all Americans; and

**WHEREAS**, the African-American legacy is also one that reflects true strength and courage; the lessons of the past will long echo into the 21<sup>st</sup> Century and beyond, as we honor those who have dedicated themselves to imparting the value of precious freedom to all of mankind; in the new millennium we will continue to work toward the fulfillment of even greater hopes and dreams for better tomorrow for all people; and

**WHEREAS**, African-American History Month is a time to celebrate the legacy of a people who have contributed to American society as we know it, and who continue to make a positive difference in our lives today; all Mississippians share in honoring the African-American culture and history that serves to illustrate man's indomitable spirit which has long been the key to our success as a people and as a Nation;

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, Ronnie Musgrove, Governor of the State of Mississippi, hereby proclaim February , 2000 as

**AFRICAN-AMERICAN HISTORY 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, February 3, 2000 in the two hundred and twenty-fourth year of the United States of America.

RONNIE MUSGROVE  
GOVERNOR