

A Proclamation  
by  
Governor Ronnie Musgrove

WHEREAS, Congenital Heart Defects (“CHDs”) exist at birth; and

WHEREAS, with familiarity of the disorder, more diagnoses are being made of what was an extremely rare and not repairable disorder; and

WHEREAS, CHD is among the most common birth defects and is the leading cause of defect-related deaths; and

WHEREAS, more than 25,000 infants (1 of every 125-150) are born each year with heart defects in the United States; and

WHEREAS, CHD is being researched by numerous professionals (at least 35 defects are now recognized) in order to more accurately describe its origin, physical signs, symptoms and surgical options; and

WHEREAS, citizens should be made more aware of CHD so that early diagnosis and intervention become a top priority;

Now, therefore, I, Ronnie Musgrove, Governor of the State of Mississippi, hereby proclaim the month of February as

**CONGENITAL HEART DEFECT  
AWARENESS MONTH**

in the State of Mississippi and encourage all citizens to join in this important observance.

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 17, 2000, in the two hundred and twenty-fourth year of the United States of America.

RONNIE MUSGROVE  
GOVERNOR

Eric Clark  
Secretary of State