

A Proclamation
by
Governor Ronnie Musgrove

WHEREAS, conserving our state's boating resources is an important responsibility we have to this and future generations of Mississippians; and

WHEREAS, recreational boating is an enjoyable and wholesome pastime, and

WHEREAS, Mississippi is fortunate to have sufficient resources to accommodate a wide variety of pleasure boating activities; and

WHEREAS, our state's waterways can, at times, become crowded causing concern for the safe enjoyment of recreational boating; and

WHEREAS, heightened boating knowledge and skills are important factors for reducing human error and improving judgment on our state's waterways; and

WHEREAS, recreational boaters aware of the responsibilities of safe boating, are likely to take the proper measures to protect themselves, their passengers, and public and private property; and

WHEREAS, Mississippi boaters have wisely suggested and supported laws to establish special boating and educational programs to make their recreation safe and enjoyable; and

WHEREAS, approximately 800 people die each year in boating-related accidents in the U.S.; and

WHEREAS, the vast majority of these accidents are caused by human error and not by the boat, equipment, or environmental factors; and

WHEREAS, a significant number of boaters who lose their lives were not wearing life jackets; and

WHEREAS, such tragedies can be averted by modern life jackets that are more comfortable, attractive, and more wearable than styles of years past; and

WHEREAS, it is important to the people of the State of Mississippi that boating activities be as safe as possible and that all boaters take the steps necessary to become the best boaters possible;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Ronnie Musgrove, Governor of the State of Mississippi, hereby proclaim May 20-26, 2000 as

SAFE BOATING WEEK

in the State of Mississippi and urge all citizens to join in this worthy 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, May 8, 2000 in the two hundred and twenty-fourth year of the United States of America.

RONNIE MUSGROVE
GOVERNOR