

A Proclamation  
by  
Governor Ronnie Musgrove

WHEREAS, the “Just Wait” Abstinence Unit within the Mississippi Department of Human Services and other organizations, schools, and churches are implementing activities in February 2000 to reduce the incidence and circumstance of teen pregnancies; and

WHEREAS, adolescence must be seen by all as a time for education and skill building, not pregnancy and parenthood; and

WHEREAS, there is a need for activities promoting sexual purity and abstinence until marriage, such as building the character traits of self-control, self-respect, and self-discipline and educating teen on the consequences of possible unplanned pregnancies, sexually transmitted diseases, and emotional scars associated with onset of early sexual activity; and

WHEREAS, since teenage pregnancy significantly affects the health, economic, and educational future of teenagers, there is a need to expand on the teen pregnancy prevention programs already established in order to reverse the current behavior trends; and

WHEREAS, by calling attention to the problem of teen pregnancy in an attempt to reduce the incidence of teen pregnancies, the quality of life not only for the teen mothers but also for the innocent babies will be improved;

Now, therefore, I, Ronnie Musgrove, Governor of the State of Mississippi, hereby proclaim the month of February 2000 as

**TEEN PREGNANCY PREVENTION MONTH**

in the State of Mississippi, and urge all citizens to take due note of this observance and to join the effort to reduce teenage pregnancy.

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 25, 2000, in the two hundred and twenty-fourth year of the United States of America.

RONNIE MUSGROVE  
GOVERNOR

Eric Clark  
Secretary of State