

WHEREAS, Dr. A. Wallace Conerly has devoted thirty years of service to the University of Mississippi Medical Center, serving as Vice Chancellor for Health Affairs and Dean of the School of Medicine since 1994; and

WHEREAS, a native of Tylertown in Walthall County, Dr. Conerly graduated with honors from Millsaps College in 1957, received his M.D. from Tulane University in 1960 and began his medical career in the U.S. Air Force, serving until 1966 when he was honorably discharged as a Major: and

WHEREAS, Dr. Conerly became a member of the faculty of the University Medical Center in 1973, and its chief executive officer in 1994; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Conerly has directed a \$335 million building program, the largest in the history of higher education in Mississippi, including a new children's hospital, a new women and infant's hospital, a new 256 bed adult hospital and a critical care hospital, along with a host of new facilities for the School of Nursing, the School of Health Related Professions and the Medical Center complex; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Conerly's leadership was vital in the creation of the Jackson Medical Mall, a model of health care delivery and of urban revitalization; and

WHEREAS, he has worked diligently to increase to the recruitment to the Medical Center and to end the racial disparity in the delivery of healthcare in Mississippi; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Conerly has forged valuable alliances with the State's political leadership, its congressional delegation and the health care community that have enriched the lives of all Mississippians and enhanced the national prominence of the Medical Center; and

WHEREAS, under the stewardship of Dr. Conerly, resources available to the Medical Center have doubled, resulting in more and better healthcare for our citizens; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Conerly, following the advice of an old friend, "has left the woodpile larger than he found it" for which the citizens of Mississippi are grateful.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Ronnie Musgrove, Governor of the State of Mississippi, do hereby proclaim Wednesday, March 19, 2003, as

## WALLY CONERLY DAY

in the State of Mississippi.