A Proclamation by Governor Ronnie Musgrove

WHEREAS, National TRIO Day was designated by concurrent resolution on February 24, 1986 by the 99th Congress and has been celebrated annually ever since in recognition of the importance of TRIO Programs in preparing non-traditional college bound students to seek, pursue, and excel at educational endeavors beyond the secondary level; and

WHEREAS, TRIO Programs, Educational Talent Search, Upward Bound, Upward Bound Math and Science, Student Support Services, Ronald E. McNair Post-Baccalaureate Achievement Program and Educational Achievement Centers, were established more than thirty years ago to assist low-income students overcome class, social, academic, and cultural barriers to higher education; and

WHEREAS, these programs provide invaluable services to low-income and/or first generation college goers to heighten their chances of successful matriculation at the post secondary education level; and

WHEREAS, there are currently thirty-six TRIO Programs at nineteen Mississippi institutions of higher education, the Mississippi Department of Education and the Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians, these programs are presented jointly by the Mississippi Association of Equal Opportunity Program Personnel [MAEOPP]; and

WHEREAS, more than 1200 low-income and/or first generation college going students, between the ages of 11 and 27 benefit from the services provided by these TRIO Programs; and

WHEREAS, these students represent the highest aspirations and best hope for the American dream and Mississippi's future; and

WHEREAS, by lifting these students to new academic heights, TRIO Programs are helping low-income students better understand their financial obligations; and

WHEREAS, we embark into the new millennium, the MAEOPP TRIO Programs plan to continue encouraging its students to seek, pursue, and conquer the challenges of higher education by "Facing the New Millennium Head-on" as we celebrate National TRIO Day 2000 on Saturday, February 26, 2000 at the T. B. Ellis Physical Education Complex on the campus of Jackson State University.

Now, therefore, I, Ronnie Musgrove, Governor of the State of Mississippi, hereby proclaim February 26, 2000,

NATIONAL TRIO DAY

in the State of Mississippi and encourage our citizens throughout the state to honor this observance and support the educational aspirations of TRIO students throughout our great state.

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 11, 2000, in the two hundred and twenty-fourth year of the United States of America.

RONNIE MUSGROVE GOVERNOR

Eric Clark Secretary of State