

A Proclamation  
By  
Governor Ronnie Musgrove

**WHEREAS**, there are 1 ½ million women residing in the State of Mississippi; and

**WHEREAS**, the Mississippi Nurses Association and the Mississippi Nurses Foundation recognize that the health of the women of Mississippi is important to the future welfare and economics of the state and the nation; and

**WHEREAS**, cardiovascular disease is the leading cause of death for women—more than 6,000 women die from cardiovascular disease in Mississippi each year, with almost 1,100 women dying from stroke; and

**WHEREAS**, approximately 90,000 women (8.2%) in Mississippi have diabetes—more than 1,300 women die from diabetes each year in Mississippi; and

**WHEREAS**, more than 2,200 women in Mississippi will be diagnosed with breast cancer and 400 women will die—20% of women with breast cancer have a family history of breast cancer; and

**WHEREAS**, almost 200 new cases of uterine or cervical cancer will be diagnosed in Mississippi this year and approximately 100 Mississippi women will die of ovarian cancer; and

**WHEREAS**, lung cancer accounts for almost 13.3% of all cancer cases in women, and 24.8% of all cancer deaths in women—unfortunately, lung cancer death rates in women have increased; and

**WHEREAS**, by changing the approach for addressing women's health care and redefining health as well being rather than the absence of disease, nursing is charting the course to empower women to improve their quality of health:

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, Ronnie Musgrove, Governor of the State of Mississippi, hereby proclaim August 2003, as

**WOMEN'S HEALTH MONTH**

in the State of Mississippi, in honor of all our wives, mothers and daughters.

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, August 12, 2003, in the two hundred and twenty-seventh year of the United States of America.

RONNIE MUSGROVE  
GOVERNOR