

A Proclamation  
By  
Governor Ronnie Musgrove

**WHEREAS**, the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States, the oldest major United States veterans' organization, is composed of over 1.9 million members, of which, over 16,800 are members of the Veterans of Foreign Wars, Department of Mississippi; and

**WHEREAS**, the Veterans of Foreign Wars has a fraternal, patriotic, historical, and educational objective of maintaining true allegiance to the United States of America, her Constitution and laws, foster true patriotism, maintain and extend the institution of American freedom, and to perpetuate the memory and history of our dead; and

**WHEREAS**, Mr. Johnnie L. Richard of Kiln, Mississippi, a Life Member of Alfred Alleman, Post 2538, Gulfport, Mississippi, was elected and installed as Commander of the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States, Department of Mississippi at the 68<sup>th</sup> Annual State Convention held in Tupelo, Mississippi on June 23, 2002; and

**WHEREAS**, Commander Richard has served with distinction as a delegate to the White House Conference on Aging, representing all veterans and their families of Mississippi; has served on several Veterans of Foreign Wars' National Committees including POW/MIA, Hospital, Community Activities, Legislative, and Organization and Finance; and has been named "All-American District Commander" for 1998-1999; and

**WHEREAS**, Commander Richard has pledged to uphold the Veterans of Foreign Wars Objectives by rallying Mississippi members under the theme "The Best Never Rest:"

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, Ronnie Musgrove, Governor of the State of Mississippi, hereby proclaim September 28, 2002, as

**JOHNNIE L. RICHARD DAY**

in the State of Mississippi and urge all residents of Mississippi to join us in honoring Commander Richard on his official homecoming in the City of Biloxi, Mississippi.

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, September 19, 2002, in the two hundred and twenty-sixth year of the United States of America.

RONNIE MUSGROVE  
GOVERNOR