

A Proclamation  
By  
Governor Ronnie Musgrove

**WHEREAS**, the safety and well being of children is a priority of this state; and

**WHEREAS**, more than 200,000 children are injured on playgrounds in the United States each year equaling an average of one playground-related emergency room visit every two-and-one-half minutes; and

**WHEREAS**, the National Program for Playground Safety has been created at the University of Northern Iowa to help inform the nation about playground injuries and possible ways to reduce the number of injuries; and

**WHEREAS**, the National Program for Playground Safety has identified key areas that could help substantially reduce the number of playground injuries and keep our children SAFE by providing proper Supervision, Age appropriate equipment, materials to soften Falls to the surface, and Equipment and maintenance; and

**WHEREAS**, it is appropriate to set aside a week each year for the direction of thought on how to keep our children safer on playgrounds; and

**WHEREAS**, Spring is often a time that children head to the playground and a large percentage of playground injuries occur from April through June; and

**WHEREAS**, schools, parks, and other public facilities are preparing for summer season and playground participants; and

**WHEREAS**, all of us that care about children make the commitment that no MISSISSIPPI child shall play on an unsafe playground; and

**WHEREAS**, the National Program for Playground Safety has designated April 21-25, 2003, as National Playground Safety Week:

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, Ronnie Musgrove, Governor of the State of Mississippi, hereby proclaim April 21 through April 25, 2003, as

**PLAYGROUND SAFETY WEEK**

in the State of Mississippi and urge all citizens to join in this important observance.

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, April  
14, 2003, in the two hundred and  
twenty-sixth year of the United  
States of America.

RONNIE MUSGROVE  
GOVERNOR