A Proclamation By Governor Ronnie Musgrove

WHEREAS, on December 17, 1903, from the sands of Kitty Hawk, North Carolina, Orville and Wilbur Wright made the first manned, controlled, heavier-than-air flight in an engine-powered aircraft. The fulfillment of Wright Brothers' vision forever made the world a smaller place; and

WHEREAS, the Wright Brothers' 12-second, 120-foot historic flight changed the world, giving humankind access to places it never before dreamed of reaching; we honor the Wright Brothers for their creativity, vision, and the perseverance to triumph over the impossible; and

WHEREAS, nearly 100 years ago, the Wright Brothers created one of the greatest forces the world has ever seen, bringing people, languages, and ideas together; revolutionized international business, opened up isolated economies, and removed political barriers everywhere. Few events in history have had so profound an impact as the invention of the airplane; and

WHEREAS, aviation is a key transportation mode and economic engine that connects the State of Mississippi to global markets, cultures, education, the arts, and a multitude of events while contributing to strong growth in the state and this region of the United States:

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

"FIRST FLIGHT CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION"

in Mississippi, and commend this observance to all our citizens.

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 25, 2003, in the two hundred and twenty-sixth year of the United States of America.

RONNIE MUSGROVE GOVERNOR