A Proclamation By Governor Ronnie Musgrove

WHEREAS, reading is a fundamental component of a good education and opens doors to young minds when they use their reading skills and imaginations to explore opportunities and adventures around the world; and

WHEREAS, the Pascagoula School District is combining reading and bicycles to encourage students to improve their reading rates and performance at city schools; and

WHEREAS, 5,000 children in grades K-8 were challenged to read half a million books, an average of 100 per student, during this school year; and

WHEREAS, students earn points for reading books—as they meet their goals, the children become eligible for one of more than 500 bicycles; and

WHEREAS, the more advanced books earn more points and if students increase their reading level by an entire grade level, they can put their name in twice for a bike; and

WHEREAS, there will be a Read 'N Ride rally on May 9, 2003, to celebrate the reading success of the students; and

WHEREAS, the State of Mississippi would like to congratulate students, teachers, and parents for your efforts and your commitment to education and fostering a love for reading:

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Ronnie Musgrove, Governor of the State of Mississippi, hereby proclaim May 9, 2003, as

READ 'N RIDE DAY

in the State of Mississippi and urge all Mississippians to continue to foster a love for reading.

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, May 8, 2003, in the two hundred and twenty-sixth year of the United States of America.

RONNIE MUSGROVE GOVERNOR