A Proclamation By Governor Ronnie Musgrove

WHEREAS, Kenny Chesney was born in Knoxville, Tennessee, in 1968; and

WHEREAS, Kenny Chesney grew up singing the music of Conway Twitty and Waylon Jennings, George Jones and Lefty Frizzell, Willie Nelson and George Strait, Merle Haggard and Keith Whitley, Vern Gosdin and John Conley; and

WHEREAS, Kenny moved to Nashville in 1991 to pursue a music career and begin playing at a Nashville honky tonk called the Turf; and

WHEREAS, Kenny met Clay Bradley, head of Publisher and Writer Relations at BMI, who helped him land his first songwriting contract with Acuff-Rose Publishing that led to a recording contract with the now defunct Capricorn Records country division; and

WHEREAS, after an impressive debut album in 1993, Joe Galante, chairman of the RCA Label Group, not only offered Chesney a recording contract, but he bought his Capricorn masters; and

WHEREAS, with two double platinum records for *Everywhere We Go*, *Greatest Hits*, and multiple week hits such as "How Forever Feels," "Don't Happen Twice," "She Thinks My Tractor's Sexy," Kenny's *Greatest Hits* hit the triple platinum mark and his recent *No Shoes, No Shirt, No Problems* has been certified double platinum; and

WHEREAS, Kenny has been named Country Single of the Year at the Billboard Music Awards, nominated for Entertainer, Male Vocalist and Album of the Year for his double platinum *No Shoes, No Shirt, No Problems* at this year's Country Music Awards and headlining country music's top grossing tour--\$24 million; and

WHEREAS, Kenny has been recognized as "Country's Hottest Bachelor" by *Country Weekly*, "Sexiest Men Alive" by *People* magazine, fan-voted CMT: Flameworthy Awards Male Artist of the Year; and now considered by many to be in country music's upper echelon of artists;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Ronnie Musgrove, Governor of the State of Mississippi, do hereby proclaim January 18, 2003 as

KENNY CHESNEY DAY

in the State of Mississippi to recognize and commend the life and legacy of this great musician.

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, January 15, 2003, in the two hundred and twenty-seven year of the United States of America.

RONNIE MUSGROVE GOVERNOR