A Proclamation By Governor Ronnie Musgrove

WHEREAS, the Office for Children and Youth and the Division of Family and Children's Services within the Mississippi Department of Human Services, the Division of Immunization within the Mississippi State Department of Health, and many other organizations are celebrating activities in April 2003 to recognize children; and

WHEREAS, there is a need for activities promoting responsible, informed parenthood; for creating comprehensive preventive care for mothers and young children, especially immunization against vaccine-preventable diseases in children two years old and younger; and for expanding proven state and community-based approaches in order to reverse current patterns of abuse and neglect; and

WHEREAS, by calling attention to these needs, Mississippi's children are more appreciated and better served; and

WHEREAS, activities during April 2002 will acknowledge Child Abuse Prevention Month, April 1-30; the Week of the Young Child, April 6-12; and the National Infant Immunization Week, April 13-19:

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

THE MONTH OF THE CHILD

in the State of Mississippi and I urge all citizens to join me in this 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 4, 2003, in the two hundred and sixth-fifth year of the United States of America.

RONNIE MUSGROVE GOVERNOR