

**For Immediate Release**

October 13, 2003

**Contact:** Shannon McMullan

601-359-3227

## **Governor Musgrove Proclaims “Pregnancy and Infant Loss Remembrance Day”**

(Jackson, MS) – Governor Ronnie Musgrove has proclaimed October 15, 2003, as “Pregnancy and Infant Loss Remembrance Day” to remember all of the pregnancies and infants who have died and to embrace the parents and families of these children in their time of grief.

“The death of a child is a devastating experience for parents and families to deal with and live through,” said Musgrove. “It is crucial that we provide our families who have experienced such a loss with the information, support, and comfort they need to help them better cope.”

According to a study conducted by the Centers for Disease Control in 1996, 16 percent of more than six million pregnancies ended in either a miscarriage or a stillbirth. Of those six million plus pregnancies, about 62 percent or 26,784 of those births ended in infant deaths from 11 months and younger.

###