

A Proclamation
By
Governor Ronnie Musgrove

WHEREAS, as of February 1, 2002, there were more than 79,520 Americans waiting for organs to become available, more than 50,920 of these patients are awaiting Kidney transplants, and every 13 minutes a new name is added to the waiting list. Each day, on an average, 15 people die waiting for a lifesaving transplant; and

WHEREAS, in contrast to the large number of people awaiting transplant, there were only 5,984 non-living donors and 5,700 living donors in the United States in 2000; and

WHEREAS, in Mississippi, we have over 763 residents listed to have some type of organ transplant with the majority of people, some 577, are awaiting a kidney transplant; and

WHEREAS, the Mississippi Legislature updated our organ donor law, the “Gift of Life Act” in 1998 and was signed by the Governor on April 13, 1998; and

WHEREAS, one donor can save and enhance the lives of up to 50 people through both organ and tissue donation, vital organs can be recovered from anyone up to 90 years old; and

WHEREAS, the number of organ donors in Mississippi for the year 2001 was 47, 2000 was 52 and the year 1999 was 45:

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Ronnie Musgrove, Governor of the State of Mississippi, hereby proclaim April 21-27, 2002, as

**NATIONAL ORGAN AND TISSUE DONOR
AWARENESS WEEK**

in the State of Mississippi.

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,
February 8, 2002, in the two
hundred and twenty-fifth year of
the United States of America.

RONNIE MUSGROVE
GOVERNOR