

A Proclamation  
By  
Governor Ronnie Musgrove

**WHEREAS**, Autism is the third most common developmental disability in the United States; and

**WHEREAS**, this condition, the result of a neurological disorder, knows no racial, ethnic or social boundaries; and

**WHEREAS**, Autism interferes with the normal development of the brain in the areas of reasoning, social interaction and communication skills, causing persons with Autism to have difficulty relating to others; and

**WHEREAS**, over the past thirty years, significant progress has been made in the areas of research, medicine, diagnostic issues, and therapies for autism, resulting in improved quality of life for those with autism and their loved ones; and

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

**Autism Awareness Day**

And the month of April 2002 as

**Autism Awareness Month**

in the State of Mississippi and I urge all citizens to join me in recognizing the achievements made and to continue these efforts by promoting the awareness and fostering the understanding of autism.

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 7, 2002 in the two hundred and twenty-fifth year of the United States of America.

RONNIE MUSGROVE  
GOVERNOR