

A Proclamation
by
Governor Ronnie Musgrove

WHEREAS, the personal safety of people living in the United States is a top priority for both policy makers and the American public; and

WHEREAS, in 1996, our nation's crime rate underwent an historic drop, although U.S. residents still experienced nearly 37 million criminal victimizations, including over nine million violent crimes; and

WHEREAS, when one man, woman or child in America is harmed by crime, *all* Americans are touched by the devastating results; and

WHEREAS, crime victims and those who serve them are a significant force for positive changes that have resulted in improved victims' rights and services, and laws that truly promote justice for all; and

WHEREAS, during 2000 National Crime Victims' Right Week, the myriad good deeds and important work of crime victims and their advocates deserve our nation's recognition and respect; and

WHEREAS, during the week of April 9-15, 2000 and throughout the year, our state joins together to celebrate "Victims' Rights";

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Ronnie Musgrove, Governor of the State of Mississippi, hereby proclaim April 9-15, 2000 as

NATIONAL VICTIMS' RIGHTS 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, March 9, 2000 in the two hundred and twenty-fourth year of the United States of America.

RONNIE MUSGROVE
GOVERNOR