

# STATE OF MISSISSIPPI

Office of the Governor



## PROCLAMATION

**WHEREAS**, Mississippi is richly blessed with nearly 20 million acres of forests that contribute greatly to the economy of Mississippi and enhance the beauty and aesthetic quality of our environment; and

**WHEREAS**, forest resources provide Mississippi with jobs and income, tax revenue, wood products, energy, fuel, clean air, recreational opportunities and ideal habitat for many species of wildlife, while slowing the loss of soil due to erosion and ensuring a good storehouse of clean water; and

**WHEREAS**, it is our responsibility as concerned citizens to protect these increasingly valuable forest resources for our present use and enjoyment, as well as for future generations; and

**WHEREAS**, March has historically been one of the states' highest wildfire occurrence months, when thousands of acres of valuable timberland are damaged or lost and lives and property of many citizens are endangered, all due to the destructive force of wildfire:

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, Phil Bryant, Governor of the State of Mississippi, do hereby proclaim the month of March 2016 as

## ***WILDFIRE PREVENTION MONTH***

in the State of Mississippi and urge all citizens to join in helping to reduce the uncontrolled, unlawful, wasteful burning of Mississippi's forests, our most valuable renewable resource.



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, on the 20<sup>th</sup> day of January, in the year of our Lord, two thousand and sixteen, and of the Independence of the United States of America, the two hundred and fortieth.



PHIL BRYANT  
GOVERNOR