

STATE OF MISSISSIPPI

Office of the Governor



PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, Mississippi is richly blessed with more than 19 million acres of forests, which 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 state's 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; and

WHEREAS, Mississippi Forestry Commission provides tips and recommendations at its website PreventWildfiresMS.com as to how every Mississippian can join in the prevention of wildfires and protect our valuable forest resources.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Tate Reeves, Governor of the State of Mississippi, do hereby proclaim the month of **March 2023** 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 24th day of February, in the year of our Lord, two thousand and twenty-three, and of the Independence of the United States of America, the two hundred and forty-seventh.

Handwritten signature of Tate Reeves in blue ink.

TATE REEVES
GOVERNOR