

STATE OF MISSISSIPPI

Office of the Governor



PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, Mississippi has been celebrating Arbor Day since 1926 as a special day to recognize the statewide contributions of trees and forests. The State of Mississippi benefits from forestry, which contributes billions of dollars to the state's economy, millions toward education through School Trust Land timber sale revenue, and employs almost 70,000 people; and

WHEREAS, Mississippi's trees and forests provide jobs, tax revenue, School Trust Land revenue, wood products, energy, fuel, clean air, water, reduced energy consumption, outdoor recreational opportunities, and abundant wildlife habitats, while slowing the loss of topsoil due to erosion; and

WHEREAS, forest resources are sustainably utilized to enhance economic development, provide environmental benefits and educational opportunities, reduce the impact of pollution, and enhance quality of life for the citizens of Mississippi; and

WHEREAS, on Arbor Day and Tree Planting Week community partners, families, and friends join together to celebrate the benefits of trees and urban forests to recognize the unique beauty and diversity of our native trees, which provide a powerful and lasting impression on visitors and lifelong memories for residents; and

WHEREAS, trees will be planted statewide, creating a lasting legacy for future generations:

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Phil Bryant, Governor of the State of Mississippi, do hereby proclaim February 10, 2017, as

ARBOR DAY

in the State of Mississippi, and I do further proclaim the period of time from February 10 - February 17, 2017, as

TREE PLANTING WEEK

in the State of Mississippi and urge all citizens to plant a tree.



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 5th day of January, in the year of our Lord, two thousand and seventeen, and of the Independence of the United States of America, the two hundred and forty-first.



PHIL BRYANT
GOVERNOR