

# STATE OF MISSISSIPPI

Office of the Governor



## A Proclamation

**WHEREAS**, the State of Mississippi has long been concerned with the health of its citizens; and

**WHEREAS**, chronic lung diseases, known collectively as chronic obstructive pulmonary disease, are the fourth leading cause of death in the United States; with over 119,000 Americans dying from this disease each year; and

**WHEREAS**, chronic obstructive pulmonary diseases cost the United States an estimated \$31.9 billion a year; and

**WHEREAS**, 16 million people in the United States have been diagnosed with some form of COPD with a similar number undiagnosed; and

**WHEREAS**, awareness, early detection and treatment are crucial in the prevention or slowing of the spread of lung disease in this country; and

**WHEREAS**, the citizens of Mississippi deserve the opportunity to grow, thrive, be healthy and be informed and aware of their respiratory health and of the factors that affect that health:

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, Haley Barbour, Governor of the State of Mississippi, hereby proclaim November 2007, as

## **CHRONIC OBSTRUCTIVE PULMONARY DISEASE AWARENESS MONTH**

in the State of Mississippi, and urge all citizens to help raise awareness about the prevalence of chronic obstructive pulmonary disease and the serious effects associated with the disease.



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 second day of October in the year of our Lord, two thousand and seven, and of the Independence of the United States of America, the two hundred and thirty-second.

Handwritten signature of Haley Barbour in black ink.

HALEY BARBOUR  
GOVERNOR