

# STATE OF MISSISSIPPI

Office of the Governor



## A Proclamation

**WHEREAS**, Spinal Muscular Atrophy (SMA) is the leading genetic killer of children under the age of two. SMA is known to cause degeneration in voluntary muscle movement for those that survive with the disease. One in 40 Americans carry this gene; and

**WHEREAS**, Spinal Muscular Atrophy crosses all racial, ethnic and religious boundaries, and can strike anyone of any age, race or gender; and

**WHEREAS**, increased awareness of Spinal Muscular Atrophy will lead to increased knowledge and increased support for both disease research and the families affected by the disease, hopefully leading to a cure; and

**WHEREAS**, patient groups have named August as National Spinal Muscular Atrophy Awareness Month in order to raise awareness and help promote research into this devastating disease.

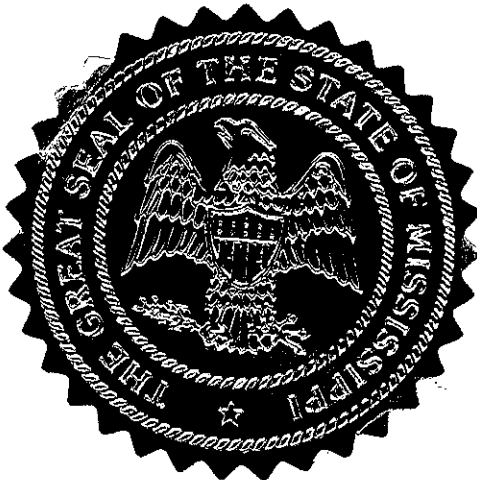
**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, Haley Barbour, Governor of the State of Mississippi, hereby proclaim August 2009, as

## **SPINAL MUSCULAR ATROPHY AWARENESS MONTH**

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, on the twenty-second day of July in the year of our Lord, two thousand and nine, and of the Independence of the United States of America, the two hundred and thirty-fourth.



Handwritten signature of Haley Barbour in black ink.

HALEY BARBOUR  
GOVERNOR