

# STATE OF MISSISSIPPI

Office of the Governor



## PROCLAMATION

**WHEREAS**, the white cane, which every blind citizen of our state has the right to carry, demonstrates and symbolizes the ability to achieve a full and independent life and the capacity to work productively in competitive employment; and

**WHEREAS**, the white cane, by allowing every blind person to move freely and safely from place to place, makes it possible for the blind to fully participate in and contribute to our society; and

**WHEREAS**, every citizen should be aware that the law requires that motorists exercise appropriate caution when approaching a blind person carrying a white cane; and

**WHEREAS**, Mississippi law also calls upon employers, both public and private, to be aware of and utilize the employment skills of our blind citizens by recognizing their worth as individuals and their productive capacities; and

**WHEREAS**, the State of Mississippi, through its public agencies and with the cooperative assistance of Mississippi Department of Rehabilitation Services, can look forward to a continued expansion of employment opportunities for and greater acceptance of blind persons in the competitive labor market:

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, Phil Bryant, Governor of the State of Mississippi, do hereby proclaim October 15, 2014, as

## ***WHITE CANE SAFETY DAY***

in the State of Mississippi and do call upon employers and the public to utilize the available skills of competent blind persons and to open new opportunities for the blind in our rapidly changing society; and upon all citizens to recognize the white cane as an instrument of safety and self-help for blind pedestrians on our streets and highways.



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



PHIL BRYANT  
GOVERNOR