STATE OF MISSISSIPPI

Office of the Governor

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, Mississippi is richly blessed with nearly 20 million acres of forestland, which contributes greatly to Mississippi's economy and enhances the beauty and aesthetic quality of our environment; 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, it is our responsibility as concerned citizens to protect these increasingly valuable sustainable forest resources for our present use and enjoyment, as well as for providing a lasting benefit 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 endangered, all due to the destructive force of wildfire:

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Tate Reeves, Governor of the State of Mississippi, do hereby proclaim the month of March 2020 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 5thth day of February, in the year of our Lord, two thousand and twenty, and of the Independence of the United States of America, the two hundred and forty-fourth.

Tate Reeves

TATE REEVES
GOVERNOR