

# STATE OF MISSISSIPPI

*Office of the Governor*



## PROCLAMATIONS

**WHEREAS**, February is the month in which we celebrate the contributions African-Americans have made, and continue to make, to our communities, our state, our nation, and our way of life; and

**WHEREAS**, the United States Postal Service is issuing a pane of six commemorative U.S. Postage Stamps, honoring the courage, commitment and achievements of twelve Civil Rights Pioneers; and

**WHEREAS**, the State of Mississippi is proud to claim two of the twelve Civil Rights Pioneers who appear on these U.S. Postage Stamps as our own: Medgar Evers and Fannie Lou Hamer; and

**WHEREAS**, Fannie Lou Hamer, a Mississippi sharecropper, was tireless and steadfast in her fervent belief that the right to vote is the right of all; and

**WHEREAS**, Medgar Evers, served the cause of equality and freedom, becoming an enduring symbol of the struggle, mourned and remembered to this day:

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, Haley Barbour, Governor of the State of Mississippi, hereby proclaim the 26th day of February 2009 as

## CIVIL RIGHTS PIONEERS DAY

in the State of Mississippi and ask the citizens of this great state to remember the hope, the sacrifice, and the achievements of those who came before; also asking that all of us be newly resolved to do our part, as they did theirs, to advance the cause of justice, kindness, tolerance, understanding, and freedom.

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 thirteenth day of February 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-third.



A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Haley Barbour".

HALEY BARBOUR