STATE OF MISSISSIPPI

Office of the Governor

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, Aaron Shirley was born in Gluckstadt, Mississippi; and

WHEREAS, Aaron Shirley was a graduate of Tougaloo College and Meharry Medical College; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Shirley and his wife, Ollye Shirley, had four children; and

WHEREAS, after completing medical school and an internship in Tennessee, Dr. Shirley entered into private practice in Vicksburg; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Shirley accepted a training position at UMC, becoming the first African-American resident in 1965; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Shirley went on to serve as a clinical instructor in the Department of Pediatrics at UMC for more than 40 years; and

WHEREAS, in 1970, Dr. Shirley helped establish the Jackson Hinds Comprehensive Health Center, which became the largest community health center in the state; and

WHEREAS, in 1995, Dr. Shirley pushed to transform the dilapidated Jackson Mall into the Jackson Medical Mall, a one stop shop health care facility for the underserved; and

WHEREAS, in 2010, Dr. Shirley founded the HealthConnect program which sends doctors and nurses to poor rural homes to help prevent unnecessary ER visits; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Shirley has been awarded numerous prestigious honors and awards, including the Herbert W. Nickens Award from the Association of American Medical Colleges for his lifetime service in support of diversity in medical education and elimination of health disparities; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Shirley died of natural causes in Jackson, Mississippi, on November 26, 2014, at the age of 81:

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Phil Bryant, Governor of the State of Mississippi, hereby proclaim December 5, 2014, as

DR. AARON SHIRLEY DAY

in recognition of his life and achievements and express my deepest sympathy to his family on his passing.

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 4th day of December, 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

PHIL BRYANT
GOVERNOR