

# STATE OF MISSISSIPPI

## Office of the Governor



### PROCLAMATION

**WHEREAS**, the State of Mississippi recognizes that it plays a vital role in identifying, protecting its citizens from, and responding to cybersecurity threats that may have significant impact to our individual and collective safety and privacy; and

**WHEREAS**, critical infrastructure (i.e., financial services, educational institutions, energy, telecommunications, transportation, utilities, health care, and emergency response systems, etc.) is increasingly reliant on the support of information systems and technology; and

**WHEREAS**, cybersecurity education and awareness is crucial for everyone, including large corporations, small businesses, financial institutions, schools, government agencies, the home user, and anyone who connects to the internet, be it with a computer, mobile phone, or other internet-connected device; and

**WHEREAS**, monitoring your accounts, being conscientious of what you share online, keeping computer software up to date, creating unique passwords and changing them regularly, installing antivirus programs and firewalls, and using mobile devices and other internet-connect devices safely are ways people and organizations can protect themselves from phishing, viruses, ransomware, other types of malware, financial loss, and loss of sensitive data; and

**WHEREAS**, the STOP. THINK. CONNECT.™ Campaign serves as the national cybersecurity public awareness campaign, implemented through a coalition of private companies, nonprofit, government organizations, and academic institutions working together to increase the public's understanding of cyber threats and empowering Americans to be safer and more secure online; and

**WHEREAS**, the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) Cybersecurity Workforce Framework is a free resource to help organizations (both large and small, public, and private) improve their cybersecurity practices through a practical approach to addressing the ever-evolving cybersecurity threats and challenges; and

**WHEREAS**, maintaining the security of cyberspace is a shared responsibility in which each of us has a critical role to play, and awareness of essential cyber hygiene will improve the security of State of Mississippi's information, infrastructure, and economy; and

**WHEREAS**, the Federal Government of the United States of America, the U.S. Department of Homeland Security's Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency ([www.cisa.gov](http://www.cisa.gov)), the Multi-State Information Sharing and Analysis Center (<https://www.cisecurity.org/ms-isac>), the National Association of State Chief Information Officers ([www.nascio.org](http://www.nascio.org)), and the National Cyber Security Alliance ([www.staysafeonline.org](http://www.staysafeonline.org)) all recognize October as Cybersecurity Awareness Month.

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, Tate Reeves, Governor of the State of Mississippi, do hereby designate October 2021 as

### CYBERSECURITY AWARENESS MONTH

in Mississippi, and encourage all citizens to visit these websites, along with the website of the Mississippi Department of Information Technology Services ([www.its.ms.gov](http://www.its.ms.gov)) and the STOP. THINK. CONNECT.™ Campaign website ([www.cisa.gov/stopthinkconnect](http://www.cisa.gov/stopthinkconnect) or [www.stopthinkconnect.org](http://www.stopthinkconnect.org)) to learn about cybersecurity to put that knowledge into practice in their homes, schools, workplaces, and businesses.

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 this the 17th day of August, in the year of our Lord, two thousand and twenty-one, and of the Independence of the United States of America, the two hundred and forty-sixth.

  
TATE REEVES  
GOVERNOR

