

STATE OF MISSISSIPPI

*Office of the Governor*



**EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 1442**

**WHEREAS**, on Thursday, May 30, 2019, Mississippi lost a respected leader, statesman and friend with the passing of William Thad Cochran, longtime United States Senator and Chairman of the Senate Appropriations Committee; and

**WHEREAS**, William Thad Cochran was born on December 7, 1937, in Pontotoc, Mississippi; and

**WHEREAS**, he was educated in the public schools of Mississippi and earned a bachelor's degree from the University of Mississippi in 1959 and a J.D. degree from the University of Mississippi Law School in 1965. Senator Cochran studied international law and jurisprudence at Trinity College, University of Dublin, Ireland, in 1963 through 1964; and

**WHEREAS**, he served in the United States Navy from 1959 through 1961; and

**WHEREAS**, he began his legal career in 1965, practicing law for seven years in Jackson, Mississippi; and

**WHEREAS**, he began his distinguished career in public service in 1972 upon his election to the United States House of Representatives, serving three terms from January 3, 1973, until December 26, 1978; and

**WHEREAS**, in 1978, he was elected to the United States Senate, becoming the first Republican to represent Mississippi in the Senate since Reconstruction, serving from December 27, 1978, until his resignation on April 1, 2018; and

**WHEREAS**, with over forty-five years of combined service in the United States House of Representatives and the United States Senate, he was the second longest-serving member of Congress from Mississippi; and

**WHEREAS**, on May 12, 2018, the University of Mississippi awarded him the Mississippi Humanitarian Award, presented "to exceptional figures who have played a major role in shaping the State"; and

**WHEREAS**, the prayers of this State are with his wife, Kay Webber Cochran, his son Clayton and daughter Kate, three grandchildren, brother and sister-in-law Nielsen and Connie Cochran, and other family members and friends:

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, Phil Bryant, by the authority vested in me as Governor by the Constitution and laws of the State of Mississippi, do hereby proclaim a period of official mourning in the State of Mississippi and do hereby order all flags of the United States of America and the State of Mississippi be flown at half-staff on all buildings and grounds of the

State of Mississippi and all areas under its jurisdiction beginning immediately on Thursday, May 30, 2019, and ending at sunset on Friday, May 31, 2019, in remembrance of a dedicated Mississippi public servant, a good man and my good friend, William Thad Cochran.

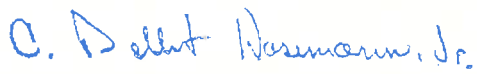
**IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF**, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Mississippi to be affixed.



**DONE** at the Capitol in the City of Jackson, the 30th day of May, in the year of our Lord two thousand nineteen, and of the Independence of the United States of America, the two hundred and forty-third.

  
PHIL BRYANT  
GOVERNOR

BY THE GOVERNOR:

  
C. DELBERT HOSEMANN, JR.  
SECRETARY OF STATE