

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**April Declared Financial Literacy Month by Mississippi Governor Tate Reeves:
Mississippi Council on Economic Education Celebrates with Series of Events**

Jackson, Mississippi – April 5, 2024 - Mississippi Governor Tate Reeves has officially proclaimed April 2024 as Financial Literacy Month, highlighting the importance of financial education and empowerment across the state. In recognition of this proclamation, the Mississippi Council on Economic Education (MCEE) is proud to announce a series of events aimed at promoting financial literacy and education throughout the month.

The MCEE will kick off the celebration with the annual Personal Finance Challenge, scheduled to take place on Friday, April 19th at Mississippi Public Broadcasting. This competition offers students an opportunity to demonstrate their knowledge of personal finance concepts in a fun and competitive environment.

Following the Personal Finance Challenge, the MCEE will host a teacher professional development session titled "Financial Longevity: Retirement Readiness for Teachers" on April 20th. This event aims to equip educators with the necessary tools and knowledge to prepare for retirement and make informed financial decisions.

In addition, registration is now open for all Master Teacher programs, including the Master Teacher of Personal Finance and Master Teacher of College and Career Readiness. These programs provide educators with specialized training and resources to effectively teach financial literacy and career readiness skills in their classrooms.

Furthermore, the MCEE will announce the winning teams in the spring 2024 trading session of the Stock Market Game. This educational simulation allows students to learn about the stock market and investment strategies while competing against their peers.

The Mississippi Council on Economic Education is a nonprofit organization dedicated to promoting economic and financial literacy among Mississippi's K-12 students and their teachers. Through innovative programs, teacher training workshops, and curriculum development, the MCEE strives to empower individuals with the knowledge and skills needed to make informed economic and financial decisions.

"We are thrilled to join Governor Tate Reeves in celebrating Financial Literacy Month and continuing our mission of promoting economic and financial education throughout Mississippi," said Selena Swartzfager, President of the Mississippi Council on Economic Education. "By providing educators and students with the tools and resources they need to succeed, we can help build a brighter financial future for our state."

For more information about the Mississippi Council on Economic Education and its programs, visit www.mscee.org or contact Selena Swartzfager at mscee@millsaps.edu.



In the photo with Governor Tate Reeves are the following MCEE Board Members and President (L to R): Joe Donovan - MS Development Authority, Paul Breazeale – CPA Retired, Christy Holyfield – Citizens National Bank, Danny Bolanos – The First, Sherry Rainey - Trustmark, Selena Swartzfager – Mississippi Council on Economic Education, Jim Perry – Wells Fargo and Daniel Elliott – Cadence Bank.

The Proclamation follows:

STATE OF MISSISSIPPI

Office of the Governor



PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, financial education is necessary for the people of Mississippi to be successful as entrepreneurs, voters, students, families and citizens; and

WHEREAS, Mississippi citizens can benefit from being empowered to identify and manage realistic financial goals and to make wise financial decisions to help them achieve their dreams; and

WHEREAS, Mississippians that are financially literate are more likely to have the necessary skills and education to improve their economic future; and

WHEREAS, The Mississippi Council on Economic Education is a national leader in Financial Literacy Education; and

WHEREAS, The Mississippi Council on Economic Education wishes to encourage Mississippi K-12 educators to enhance their financial management skills and actively participate in financial education seminars and activities throughout the state; and

WHEREAS, Mississippi ranked first in the nation for the number of middle and high school students participating in the online National Personal Finance Challenge during the 2022-2023 school year; and

WHEREAS, Mississippi received an 'A' on the 2023 National Report Card on High School Financial Literacy issued by Champlain College; and

WHEREAS, The Mississippi Personal Finance Challenge will take place on Friday, April 19, 2024.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Tate Reeves, Governor of the State of Mississippi, do hereby proclaim the month of April 2024, as

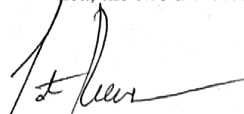
FINANCIAL LITERACY MONTH

in Mississippi, and I do hereby urge all citizens to take due note of the observance.



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 April in the year of our Lord, two thousand and twenty-four, and of the Independence of the United States of America, the two hundred and forty-eighth.


TATE REEVES
GOVERNOR

Contact:

Selena Swartzfager

President

Mississippi Council on Economic Education

601-937-1424

swartsc@millsaps.edu

www.mscee.org