Task Force for Classroom Technology Press Conference Wednesday, March 8, 2000 10:30 a.m.

## Governor Ronnie Musgrove <u>Talking Points</u>

- During my State of the State Address, I dared Mississippians to imagine computers at the fingertips of every Mississippi school child. Through this task force, we will make this educational opportunity a reality for the future leaders of our state.
- In education we have laid a strong foundation that we must continue to strengthen, and we will strengthen it by meeting the challenge I have made to the task force which is: to place an Internet-accessible computer in every public elementary and secondary classroom in Mississippi by the end of 2002.
- We want to put a computer in every classroom, and eventually in every desk so that students grow up computer literate from the start and have the skills and training to compete in the workforce of the future.

- The computer can open the door to provide countless learning opportunities for our students.
- The task force will exhaust every resource in order to meet their goal.
- It will take the collective effort of both the private and public sector working together to meet the needs of Mississippi's children.
- We are paving the way for Mississippi's students to start their paths down the information highway.
- Turn to Dr. Thompson for comments.
- Take 2 or 3 questions at the most.