

MEMORANDUM

January 21, 2002

TO: Stacey

FROM: John

RE: Blurbs

Hope this is what you're looking for. I just pulled some lines from the State of the State.

JOBS

"In the face of a national recession, we've had unprecedented success in creating high-quality, good-paying jobs for the people of Mississippi. Since taking office, over 21,000 jobs have been created to help provide our people with a sense of safety and security. Our efforts have resulted in over \$6 billion in new investments in our state."

"We still face many challenges. We created a rapid response team for economic development emergencies. They react to a plant closing the way our Mississippi Emergency Management Agency reacts to a natural disaster."

"Mississippi is no stranger to tough times. We should re-double our efforts to promote the promise and potential of our state and our people."

"The current condition of the national economy means that many people don't have the opportunity to work. I have the opportunity to work, and I won't stop fighting for jobs for our people. If I have to work longer or work harder, that's what I'll do."

HEALTH CARE

"I have a plan to address the health care needs of our people. We're attacking the problems of rising prescription drug costs, cardiovascular disease, diabetes and access to quality health care."

"No child in our state will be denied health care. Healthy children go to school ready to learn. Mississippi's children deserve every opportunity to make the most of their God-given talents."

EDUCATION

“Mississippi is blessed with thousands of excellent, dedicated teachers. We are a leader in National Board Certified teachers. We were the first state in the nation to offer more pay to teachers with national board certification, and it has paid off.”

“I ran for the state senate with a vision of raising teacher pay to the southeastern average. When the teacher pay raise plan we passed is fully implemented, we will go from 49th in the nation to 19th in the nation.”

“Mississippi is recognized for its forward-thinking approach to education. Governor John Engler of Michigan, who serves as Chairman of the National Governors Association, appointed me as one of two lead governors in the nation on the President’s education package, and as the lead governor on the reauthorization of special education.”

“From our kindergartens to our universities, we are determined to provide the best education possible for the children of Mississippi.”