

MEMORANDUM

February 5, 2002

TO: Governor

FROM: John

RE: WAPT interview

CC: Phillip
Lee Ann

We have you tentatively scheduled to appear on WAPT Thursday morning. They called yesterday to invite you. This offers you a good chance to kick off the next round of message events on jobs, coming on the heels of the Korea trip.

FYI: The unemployment rate for December was 5.8%, up from 5.2% in November. According to the MESC, the major factor in the rise was the loss of 6,200 jobs in the agricultural sector brought about by the end of the harvest season.

Your message should focus on continuing to work hard to bring quality, high-paying jobs to Mississippi. You've brought over 21,000 new jobs to the state since taking office. While we don't discuss the specifics of economic development projects, everyone is aware that you were meeting with Hyundai – another part of your role as the chief economic developer and lead salesman for the State of Mississippi.