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OFFICE OF GOVERNOR RONNIE MUSGROVE  
INTEROFFICE MEMORANDUM

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**TO:** SMITH  
**FROM:** RILEY  
**SUBJECT:** MEDICAID AND QUALITY EARLY CHILDHOOD HEALTH CARE  
**DATE** 5/3/02  
**CC:** FILE

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We sent a team of early childhood advocates to the National Committee on Partnerships for Children's Health's "Investing Intellectual Capital in Early Childhood Health" Conference held in Charlotte, North Carolina, in October of 2000. The team submitted the attached report and recommendations to the Governor. The attached recommendations address building a strong infrastructure for early childhood services that includes: 1) a data system to support and guide policy decisions regarding comprehensive services; 2) quality child care; **3) quality health care**; and, 4) quality resources for parents.

The team used Healthy People 2010 as its model for success for quality health care (*p. 3 of report*). The team is of the opinion that most of its recommendations in this area can be accomplished with a redesign of the Medicaid State Plan.

Dr. Cathy Grace, a member of the team and Director of Mississippi State's Early Childhood Institute, contacted me earlier this week and asked if the team's health care recommendations could be considered by the "Medicaid Team" that we are putting together. I told her that I would forward the info to you. I am also attaching contact info for each of the team members in case you have any questions of them.

Thanks!