

March 15, 2002

Dr. Jesse White
Federal Co-Chairman
Appalachian Regional Commission
1666 Connecticut Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20235

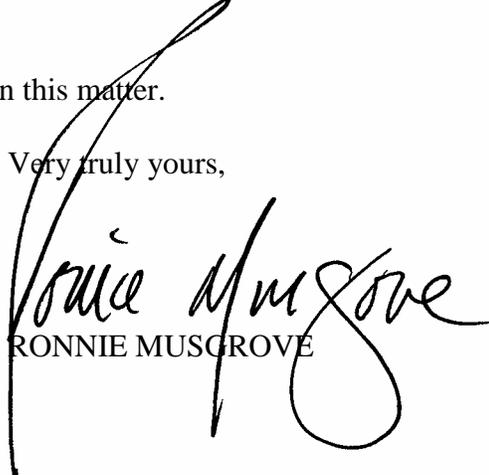
Dear Dr. White:

Thank you for giving states within the Appalachian Region the opportunity to obtain additional physicians through the J-1 Visa Program. As you know, Mississippi has many medically underserved areas.

On behalf of the State of Mississippi and North Mississippi Medical Clinics, Inc. located in West Point, Mississippi, I am requesting the Federal Co-Chairman to act as an interested government agency in seeking a waiver of the J-1 Visa foreign residence requirement for Dr. Novera Akram to work as a pediatrician for three (3) years in Clay County, Mississippi.

Thank you for your consideration in this matter.

Very truly yours,



RONNIE MUSGROVE