
OFFICE OF GOVERNOR RONNIE MUSGROVE
INTEROFFICE MEMORANDUM

TO: GOVERNOR
FROM: BOYD
SUBJECT: LEAD BASED PAINT PROGRAM AND EPA LETTER
DATE: 10/10/2002
CC: RENICK

Attached is a letter from Palmer regarding your request to reconsider withdrawal of the state's primacy over the lead-based paint program.

- 1) Palmer has placed the blame squarely on the Legislature and points out that he has not received any communications from the Speaker of Lt. Governor toward resolving this issue.
- 2) Palmer further points out the programs that Mississippi may lose primacy over if this issue is not resolved, including clean air and safe drinking water.

Chisolm's staff is reviewing Palmer's indirect suggestion that we demonstrate that Palmer's grounds for withdrawal are invalid. Without grounds or a resolution, Mississippi will lose primacy on December 24th.

Recommendations:

- 1) DEQ is drafting a letter of response to Palmer that will outline communications with the Speaker and Lt. Governor seeking consensus on resolving this issue.
- 2) Send a letter from you to the Speaker and the Lt. Governor with the Palmer letter and your response.
- 3) Give it all to the press with the intent to build consensus by the December 24th or obtain commitments from the Speaker and the Lt. Governor that a resolution will occur during the Regular Session. (This issue cannot be resolved in the current debate and discussion of tort reform with the Sierra Club promoting and the MMA fearing the development of "toxic tort" cases.) I