

January 8, 2001

Mr. Mike McGrevey
102 Industrial Park Drive
DeKalb, MS 39328

Dear Mr. McGrevey:

Thank you for taking time from your schedule to meet with Governor Musgrove during his recent "One-on-One with the Governor" event. Your multiple concerns were noted.

According to correspondence from the Appalachian Regional Commission (ARC), purchase of ambulance equipment does not meet the objectives of the ARC's Health Care Objectives. Goal 5 of the Commission's focus is to build integrated health care delivery systems designed to provide universal access and comprehensive service at a reasonable cost serving all Appalachian counties. ARC recognizes that ambulance service is an important aspect of health delivery systems, but only as it is part of a comprehensive health program does it fit the objective adopted by the Commission in the ARC Strategic Plan. Mabel Murphree, Director of the Appalachian Regional Commission Office (662-844-1184), can provide you with additional information regarding this matter.

The Governor appreciates your suggestion for an Advisory Council of Gap Counties. The Mississippi Development Authority (MDA) recently conducted meetings around the state to discuss the possibility of suppliers locating manufacturing facilities outside of Madison County. You may contact Steve Pittman at MDA (601-359-3903) with any Kemper County contacts for possible suppliers.

As Governor Musgrove shared with you, he has included funds in his executive budget for rural fire departments. The Governor has recommended that the Legislature appropriate \$484,658 to the Mississippi Insurance Department for its Rural Fire Truck Acquisition Assistance Program. You are correct in your assessment of the importance of rural and volunteer fire departments to public safety. Please let your state legislative delegation hear from you in support of these funds.

Finally, according to Chris Epps, Mississippi Department of Corrections' Deputy Commissioner for Institutions, Kemper County will be compensated for the housing of 200 inmates as provided for in the contract with MDOC, even if the regional jail is housing fewer than 200 state inmates.

Mike McGrevey
January 8, 2001
Page Two

Again, thank you for taking time to meet with Governor Musgrove. If you have any further questions, please contact me at 359-3150.

Sincerely yours,

Kelly Riley
Policy Liaison