

*Remarks for the
Nissan Press Conference
June 14, 2002*

Good afternoon. Nearly two years ago, we announced that Nissan had chosen Canton, Mississippi, as the location of its newest North American manufacturing facility. This plant, now under construction, represents an investment of nearly \$1 billion and the creation of 4,000 jobs for the people of Mississippi.

In addition to the investment and jobs created by Nissan with this facility, millions more are being invested by the suppliers for the plant and thousands of jobs will be waiting to be filled by Mississippians.

Our relationship with Nissan is strong and grows stronger every day as we look forward to the first vehicle rolling off the line next year, ahead of schedule and under budget.

This entire project with Nissan has shown the world that Mississippi is able to compete at the highest levels of the global marketplace.

Today, I'm here to say that Mississippi is showing its competitiveness again.

After consultation with the legislative leadership, I am calling a special session of the Mississippi Legislature for one week from today, Friday, June 21, 2002. The purpose of this session will be to consider a package supporting a major expansion of the Nissan project in Mississippi – an expansion that will mean more jobs and a greater investment in our state.

While I can't discuss specifics, I can say that Bob Rohrlack and I, along our staffs, have worked hard to create opportunities in Mississippi for Mississippians, and we've been successful. Now, we will be successful again.