

*Remarks for the
Veterans Home Purchase Board
October 30, 2001*

Good afternoon. Today, I'm proud to announce a new opportunity for the men and women of the Mississippi National Guard.

The Veterans Home Purchase Board is extending home loans to members of the Guard. Under this new initiative, Guard personnel with seven or more years of service may qualify for loans of up to \$110,000.

Each of you here today, along those currently serving around our state, our nation, and our world, have made a commitment. Today, we are making a commitment to you.

Our commitment is simply this: Owning a home is part of the American dream. We want to help that dream come true.

Approximately 4,000 Mississippi National Guard personnel will be affected by this initiative. At a time when they are working hard to provide safety and security, it is only fitting that we help provide security for them and their families.

I'm proud of this opportunity for you here today, as members of the Mississippi National Guard. I'm proud of what you do for our state and our nation.

I'd like to ask General Berry to make a few remarks. General?

(General Berry speaks)

Sterling Knight serves as executive director of the Veterans Home Purchase Board, and he has done a tremendous job of growing the assets of the board. I would ask him for his comments on the work of the board...

(Sterling Knight speaks)

Again, I am excited about this commitment we are making today. I can think of no greater way to thank you, the members of the Mississippi National Guard, for your service.

God bless you, and God bless America.