For Immediate Release September 6, 2002 <u>Contact</u>: John Sewell 601-359-2916

Governor Ronnie Musgrove released the following statement today:

"Access to quality health care is crucial in Mississippi's communities. We are one step closer to solving that issue, but there is still a great deal of work to be done. I'm hopeful more progress will be made in the coming days.

"My message to the Legislature has been simple and clear: Pass legislation resolving the medical malpractice crisis in Mississippi, and I will expand the call to include general civil justice reform.

"I have restated that message again today, and getting the issues muddled might jeopardize the solution to the health care crisis facing the people of Mississippi."

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