

**For Immediate Release**

March 20, 2002

**Contact:** John Sewell

601-359-2916

## **Governor Musgrove Signs Domestic Violence Legislation**

Jackson, MS – Governor Ronnie Musgrove today announced he has signed legislation providing additional protection for victims of domestic violence.

“No person should ever have to suffer the pain of domestic violence,” Musgrove said. “This bill offers new avenues of protection for those who need it most.”

Introduced by Senator Neely Carlton, Senate Bill 2409 requires protective orders to contain specifics as to the nature of the violence, and also protects the confidentiality of domestic violence shelters.

Musgrove announced he had also signed Senate Bill 2603, introduced by Senator Gloria Williamson, that revises arrest requirements in domestic violence cases.

Another bill focusing on domestic violence, Senate Bill 2460, is currently pending in the House. Musgrove called on the Legislature to send the bill to his desk as soon as possible.

“In my State of the State address, I outlined four basic priorities – jobs, education, health care and safety,” Musgrove said. “I want all Mississippians to feel safe, and this legislation helps make that happen.”

###