

For Immediate Release

February 25, 2002

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Jackson – Governor Ronnie Musgrove vetoed House Bill 1646 today. H.B. 1646 would have provided banks and small lending institutions protection from lawsuits for intentional and fraudulent actions.

“I can not condone protecting loan companies who would victimize Mississippi consumers by fraud, deception, and false representations. It is grossly unfair to Mississippi borrowers,” Governor Musgrove stated.

“While I recognize the importance of protecting legitimate banks from frivolous law suits for negligence or mistake, I will not protect illegitimate businesses who set out to perpetrate fraud on the people of Mississippi,” Governor Musgrove said.

The Governor, in his veto message, urged the legislature to suspend the rules and pass a bill “that would remove the protection for fraud – that is, intentional, deliberate acts – and provide legitimate financial institutions protection for negligent acts and errors for which no bank should have to pay punitive damages.”

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