

For Immediate Release

March 27, 2002

Contact: John Sewell

601-359-2916

Governor Musgrove Reinstates Accreditation Status for Oktibbeha, Tunica County School Districts

Jackson, MS – Governor Ronnie Musgrove has signed proclamations lifting the five-year state of emergency that has existed in the Oktibbeha and Tunica County School Districts. In separate ceremonies today, Musgrove signed proclamations that also reinstated the accreditation status of the districts.

“Working together as a community, these districts have demonstrated their commitment to making a difference, and that commitment has paid off,” Musgrove said. “I challenge them to continue their efforts to provide quality education to our children.”

The districts were placed under a state of emergency in 1997 due to deficiencies of the accreditation performance standards of the Mississippi Board of Education. On March 15, 2002, the Board of Education passed resolutions to reinstate the accreditation status of the districts.

“Our investments in economic development and education will be the foundation of our success in the future, and mediocrity is not an option in the shaping of that foundation,” said Musgrove. “We owe our children and our future nothing less.”

###