

For Immediate Release

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Failure to Restructure Private Prison Funding will Hurt Mississippi, Governor Musgrove Says

(Jackson, MS) – Governor Ronnie Musgrove said today the failure of the Legislature to restructure funding for private prisons operations represented an abdication of their fiscal responsibility to the people of Mississippi.

“A great deal of hard work, by the private prison operators and lawmakers alike, has been done to reach this point today,” Musgrove said.

Musgrove partially vetoed Senate Bill 3163, the appropriations bill for the Department of Corrections, because of \$54 million in funding for private prisons and a restriction on any transfer of those funds within the Department of Corrections budget. The legislation considered today would have revised funding for private prisons and removed the restriction on transfers.

“It’s unfortunate the majority of the members of the House chose to fund beds we don’t need versus saving \$6 million for the people of Mississippi,” said Musgrove.

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