

**For Immediate Release**

February 26, 2003

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## **Governor Musgrove Says Legislation Demonstrates Need To Provide Flexibility for Agency Heads**

(Jackson, MS) – Governor Ronnie Musgrove has signed House Bills 1290, 1291, and 1292, authorizing three agencies to transfer funds within their budget. These bills demonstrate the need for greater flexibility for agencies.

“When we are in tough economic times, as we are now with the national recession, we can manage the taxpayer’s money better with greater flexibility in the agencies,” Musgrove said. “Agency directors should be able to shift funds within their own budgets when situations dictate, and not have to wait for legislation to be passed.”

Each of the bills signed by Musgrove authorizes the transfer of funds within the FY2003 appropriation from one category to another. The bills allow transfers in the State Tax Commission (HB 1290), the Veterans Affairs Board (HB 1291), and the Public Employees’ Retirement System (HB 1292).

Musgrove has consistently called for the flexibility for agency heads to transfer funds within their budgets to best utilize taxpayer dollars.

“We have a fiscal responsibility to the people of Mississippi, and we can better meet that responsibility by allowing agency heads to more closely manage their budgets,” said Musgrove.