

Statement from Governor Ronnie Musgrove:

1/24/03

When I called the special session last summer, I presented a comprehensive plan to address the crisis with the affordability and availability of medical malpractice insurance. My plan included the creation of a compensation fund to address the immediate needs of health care providers and to ensure health care coverage for our people. Had the legislature adopted my proposal, we would not be facing the possibility of our doctors going on strike.

My office has contacted the Attorney General regarding the state of emergency. I am concerned that it is only a temporary fix. We need a permanent solution and I call on the legislature to pass the compensation fund now.