

February 9, 2001

William Winter
P.O. Box 427
Jackson, MS 39205

Dear Governor Winter:

On behalf of the citizens of Mississippi, please accept this letter of thanks for your serving on the Advisory Commission on the Mississippi State Flag and the Coat of Arms. You have served your fellow Mississippians in a most commendable manner.

Your perseverance and dedication resulted in the Commission expeditiously fulfilling its charge of gathering facts, obtaining citizens' input and advising the Legislature and myself as to a recommended course of action for this potentially volatile issue. By signing House Bill 524 on January 12, I supported the Commission's recommendation and the Legislature's position that the voters of our state should decide this issue in a statewide special election on April 17.

Many obstacles have stood in the way of economic progress, the 1894 flag among them. The 2001 flag provides an opportunity to remove one more barrier to better jobs and fully honors our state's rich past. The Mississippi Economic Council, the Mississippi Bankers Association, the Mississippi Manufacturers Association, the American Family Association, the Mississippi Tourism Association and many other organizations across our state have voiced their support for the 2001 flag.

Thank you again for your service to our state in this most worthwhile endeavor.

Very truly yours,

RONNIE MUSGROVE

RM:klr