

Governor Musgrove has been working to develop a fiscally sound, honest budget that meets the needs of Mississippians. While the legislature determines our state's budget they need to be taking into account the slowing state economy. We must adjust for this year's deficit, and we should not use inflated figures that will put Mississippi's budget in worse shape next year. With the legislature's plan, Mississippi's economy would have to grow more than 6% to make up for the shortfall and meet the 2002 budget projections. This is not realistic, and it is irresponsible budgeting and spending of our people's money. The legislature should work with Governor Musgrove to develop a budget that is responsible and accurate.