

MEMORANDUM

August 14, 2001

TO: Governor
FROM: John
RE: Media calls

Two calls from the Clarion-Ledger today:

Clay Harden is working on a story about the Census Monitoring Bureau and how an undercount in Mississippi could potentially cost the state over \$12 million in federal funds over the next ten years. He is looking for a comment on what the undercount and what that financial loss could mean to Mississippi.

Suggested response: An accurate census count means a great deal to the state. While an undercount might mean we lose some federal dollars, we will be looking at innovative ways to maximize federal funding in other areas, such as health care.

Jimmie Gates sat in on an editorial board meeting with the Mississippi Prosecutors Association in which they said they may ask you to add a pay raise for prosecutors to your call for a special session on redistricting. He's looking for a comment. Grace Simmons also wanted to know how many requests you have had to add issues on to a special session.

Suggested response: There have been no discussions with the members of the redistricting committee regarding a special session. If a special session is called on redistricting, that will be the only issue dealt with in that session.