

MEMORANDUM

August 28, 2001

TO: Governor

FROM: John

RE: Media calls / column

Tiffany Danitz with Stateline called this morning asking for an interview. She would like to talk with you about the IDEA funding, and how the current underfunding is affecting schools in Mississippi. Her phone number is 202-339-6144. Her deadline is tomorrow afternoon, so if you prefer I can draft a statement to send to her.

Patrice Sawyer called with a question about the reaction of the Health Insurance Management Board to your tobacco proposal – i.e., their hesitancy to do anything without options from the study committee and legislative support. Suggested statement: *I am bound and determined to fix the problems facing the people of Mississippi, such as access to quality health care and health insurance. I offered this proposal five months before the legislative session so there would be plenty of time to study all options. I hope that open minds will be kept until a complete and exhaustive study has been completed.*”

I'm attaching two possible columns for this weekend for you to choose from – one on the Labor Day holiday, the other written on the tobacco proposal (after reading Paul Brazeale's column today).