

*Remarks to the
National Conference of Minority Public Administrators
February 7, 2002*

Good morning. I appreciate the opportunity to be with you today and, on behalf of the 2.8 million people of this state, welcome you to Mississippi.

The Mississippi you see today is a Mississippi on the move. The Mississippi you're visiting is a state that's looking ahead, not looking back.

(tell story of Tennessee game – 10,000 ways to do business)

We're doing business now in a Mississippi that's committed to high-paying, quality jobs for all of our people. That's how we move forward, and that's how we make progress.

It's been said that all progress occurs because people dare to think differently. We've abandoned the mindset of the past, and we've focused on the future.

Bottom line, we're thinking differently and it's paying off.

We're moving ahead, we're moving quickly,
and we're moving toward the realization of
the promise and potential of our state. I'm
glad you're here to see it happening.

Thank you.