

Remarks for the Holly Springs
Organizational Meeting
July 8, 2003

- Recognize Mayor of Holly Springs-Andre' DeBerry
- Recognize President of Rust College-
President D. Beckley
- Edward Everett Hale once said, "I am only one, but I am one. I cannot do everything, but I can do something. And I will not let what I cannot do interfere with what I can do."
- This is the attitude we all should have, when trying to make Mississippi a better place to live, work, and raise families
- This can only be accomplished by continuing to make education our first priority/ Mississippi is recognized leader in education

- * Teacher pay 49th to 19th when fully implemented

- * "No Child Left Behind"

- * Computers in Classroom

- We can't stop by just educating our children, there has to be continued economic development and growth to keep our best and brightest minds here in Mississippi

- * They are Mississippi's future

- * We have to leave them a state with a solid economic base

- * As Governor of Mississippi that is what I have been working for

- Job creation from January 2000 to February 2003 (source: MDA)

- * 2,103 new and expanded facilities

- * 50,253 new jobs

* Total investment of \$14.1 billion
(\$14,129,936,686, to be exact)

- We are increasing investment while others are cutting

* This is significant in light of national recession

* Demonstrates our priority/

commitment to a better Mississippi

- Good schools lead to good jobs and good jobs lead to better communities

- Recently I awarded Holly Springs two grants totaling over \$200,000

- One grant in the amount of \$100,000 through the Emergency Shelter Grant program

* Utilized to provide essential and supportive services to homeless

individuals and preventative services to those threatened by homelessness

* This enables all the citizens of Holly Springs to reach their full potential

- The other grant in the amount of \$108,000 through the HOME funds from MDA

* Utilized to provide credit worthy families who wish to purchase a home with down payment assistance

- I am committed to making the American dream of owning a home a reality for all Mississippians
- We are working hard to help our communities improve their infrastructure
- Good schools/ good jobs lead to a strong economy which lead to good communities and a better Mississippi

