
OFFICE OF GOVERNOR RONNIE MUSGROVE
INTEROFFICE MEMORANDUM

TO: GOVERNOR
FROM: BOYD
SUBJECT: STATUS OF ON-GOING PROJECTS
DATE: 9/18/00
CC: FILE

As I will be on leave from September 20 through October 1, I have compiled the following status report for your information:

1. Classroom Technology Task Force
 - a. As you are aware, the ITS Board approved the recommendation of the Task Force on September 15, 2000. ITS will enter into negotiations with all 6 contractors this week.
 - b. I am in the process of finalizing a grant letter with the MEC Foundation to serve as the fiscal agent for the project. I would have suggested using the Public Forum on Education; however, Blake Wilson expressed deep concern over the current management.
 - c. Attached is a list of folks for you to send thank you cards.
2. 2001 Legislative Agenda
 - a. As of September 19, I have received agenda from all agencies. A notebook is forth coming. I am waiting on materials from Banking, Medicaid and MDA.
 - b. Privacy Legislation: I have a copy of some model statutes for privacy legislation. Also, the e-government commission will receive a draft as proposed by SOS, ITS, and AG. I am watching this one.
 - c. Prescription Drugs: Howard is compiling all legislation introduced among states in the 2000 Session. Upon the completion of the Heinz Study, we will have a program design and legislation to offer as well.
 - d. Patient Protections/Freedom of Information Act: Apart of you campaign promises, I am sampling other states' and model legislation to include in a bill for your review.
 - e. Community Service Leave: I have NC's legislation to provide community service leave for public employees volunteering and mentoring in their communities.

3. Early Childhood and Education
 - a. Riley and I are talking with NGA/Center for Best Practices staff about assisting Mississippi with an educational review and early childhood education initiative. Indiana has received a wealth of information from this review.
4. Governor's Senior Summit
 - a. I met with Mader, Simmons, and Tell regarding the Senior Summit. We are moving forward with tentative dates later this year (i.e., not October). The Heinz Foundation will not be able to complete its preliminary research by late October.
5. State Air Plane Regulations
 - a. DFA has drafted a set of regulations that are very similar to the pre-1999 regulations. Donna is reviewing them before they are finalized.
6. Prison Overcrowding Report
 - a. I have provided comments to Donna, Jayne, and the Department regarding modifications that should be made prior to presentation to the Federal court.
 - b. Jayne will follow up with the Department and attend the hearing if you desire.
7. Criminal Justice Information Technology Task Force (NGA)
 - a. NGA/Center for Best Practices awarded the Governor's Office \$25,000 for a planning task force to coordinate all criminal justice information technologies in the Mississippi. This grant will be used to develop a plan for submission to the U.S. Dept. of Justice for \$7.5 million in federal funding.
8. Entrepreneurial Policy Academy (NGA)
 - a. J.C. has sent letters to all the members notifying them of the October 8th meeting at Dennery's.
 - b. Tell, Simmons, and I are finalizing a list of entrepreneurs to participate in a roundtable discussion for the benefit of the academy members.
 - c. I would like you to participate at the luncheon and invite, Hartley Peavey as a featured luncheon speaker to discuss the challenges and successes of his career.
9. Oral Health Academy (NGA)
 - a. Medicaid is in the process of finalizing an application to participate in NGA's Oral Health Academy. This academy, much like the entrepreneurial academy, will focus on strategies and policies to heighten the awareness for proper dental hygiene.
10. CHIP/Mississippi Health Benefits

- a. HCFA officials are here this week conducting the annual review of the Mississippi Health Benefits program. Donna and Tell will attend the exit conference on Thursday to receive pre-comment on the findings of the team.

11. Prescription Drugs and Medicaid Review

- a. We are moving forward with the Heinz Family Foundation study to review the Medicaid program and propose a prescription drug program for our senior population.
- b. The preliminary results of this study will not be ready for presentation before the end of October; therefore, we have pushed the Senior Summit into early November.

12. School Safety Project

- a. Eric Schruner, Public Works, is in the process of updating the Crisis Box Project for use in Mississippi. This contract will likely go for signature in October with finalization before November 2000.

13. Biotechnology Partnership

- a. The Governor's Biotechnology Partnership is in the process of finalizing rules for adoption. The partnership will meet at the World Food Fair in Des Moines, IA in late October.
- b. The final rules commitments will be made at the NGA Winter Meeting in 2001.

14. Education Networks of America

- a. ITS is checking on the E-rate reimbursements for Tennessee and comparing those to Mississippi. I am awaiting information from them before going any further.

15. E-Government

- a. The initial meeting was held Monday, September 18. Cillie Litchfield, DFA, provided an overview of the ITS E-Government. At the next meeting Oct. 11, a state version of the federal uniform electronic transactions act (UETA) will be presented. (SOS, ITS, and AG are working on this. I will obtain a draft upon my return.)

Classroom Technology Task Force Thank You Notes:

ITS: Cheryl Yelverton
Jane Woosley
Martha Pemberton
Bill Roach
Tina Hollingsworth
Demetrice Williams
Susan McMichael
Annie Harris Kirkham

SDE: Helen Soule
Nathan Slater

MEC: Blake Wilson