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**OFFICE OF GOVERNOR RONNIE MUSGROVE**  
**INTEROFFICE MEMORANDUM**

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**TO:** GOVERNOR  
**FROM:** RILEY  
**SUBJECT:** DHS SCHOLARSHIPS FOR CHILDCARE WORKERS  
**DATE:** 5/1/01  
**CC:** TELL

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I received a phone call this morning from Margie Van Meter in the Office of Children and Youth at DHS. She said that she wanted us to be aware of a large constituent concern related to DHS. DHS solicited and received over 400 applications for scholarships for childcare workers to complete a two-year child development degree at community colleges. The scholarships pay for tuition, books and substitutes for the workers while they attend class. DHS awarded 50 scholarships in December. DHS notified recipients via a letter from Carol Burnett on DHS letterhead.

Recipients are now calling because they are ready to enroll in classes, but according to Van Meter, Janice Broome Brooks is hesitating to give the final go-ahead on the program. According to Van Meter, Ms. Brooks is not opposed to the program, but is concerned with the administration of the program, specifically if DHS will manage the program in-house or if they will bid out the management (record keeping, substitute payments, etc.). Van Meter said that DHS and the community colleges had agreed that DHS would send the community and junior colleges a list of the 50 scholarship recipients and the colleges would then bill DHS for the recipients' tuition and books.

Van Meter said that DHS is receiving numerous calls from the recipients who are not happy with the delay. Van Meter said that she just called to let us know to hopefully bring out quick resolution so that the childcare workers/scholarship recipients can begin their course work. I received a phone call on this same matter from a Susan Rowell on Friday, but she did not leave her number for me to call her back.

Please advise as to any additional information you require or action you want me to take regarding this matter.