

March 29, 2001

TO: MISSISSIPPI CONGRESSIONAL DELEGATION

RE: Broadband Internet Access Act of 2001 (S. 88)

Dear <>:

As Governor of our great state, I am concerned about our people's access to the Internet. You will recall that Mississippi was the first state to provide Internet access to all local libraries and linking our university and college libraries to our local communities. But, we must do more.

Senate Bill 88 proposes to provide tax credits for the build-out of high speed Internet access to you rural communities. These credits will speed the construction and delivery of broadband access to Mississippians who do not have access. While the proposed legislation is limited to residential services, access for commercial entities will also follow.

Your support for this bill is essential to help place Mississippi on an equal playing field as other e-business states. Already with the power shortages in Western states, e-businesses are searching for locations for reliable, sustainable, energy and broadband access.

Thank you for your consideration and support of Senate Bill 88, the Broadband Internet Access Act of 2001.

Very truly yours,

RONNIE MUSGROVE

March 29, 2001

TO: U.S. SENATE FINANCE COMMITTEE MEMBERS

RE: Senate Bill 88: Internet Broadband Access Act of 2001

Dear <>:

The Internet Broadband Access Act of 2001 will serve as a catalyst to stimulate high speed Internet access to our rural communities. I urge you to support this legislation and to act quickly. This bill provides an opportunity for people in rural states to enjoy the educational benefits of the Internet.

As you may be aware, only 26% of Mississippians have access to the Internet from home. With this legislation, we can expect to see this number more than triple in the next five years. It is essential to the economic growth of rural America that the Information Superhighway is built expeditiously.

Very truly yours,

RONNIE MUSGROVE