

April 9, 2002

Honorable Tim Ford
Speaker of the House
P.O. Box 1018
Jackson, MS 39215-1018

Dear Speaker Ford:

I would like to thank you for your letter to Governor Musgrove dated today. Your concern for Medicaid and your commitment to appropriating the funds necessary to provide vital health care services to our citizens is greatly appreciated.

Please be assured that I am looking forward to working with you and members of the House. My staff and I work diligently every day to provide the most efficient and effective system of services that we can, not only to our beneficiaries, but to the State of Mississippi. I look forward to continuing to work with you towards this end.

The growth in Medicaid over the last few years has been substantial. However, if Mississippians are eligible for programs enacted by the Legislature, the Division of Medicaid cannot deny them access to benefits. I look forward to working with the members of the House to ensure quality health care for Mississippi's children, disabled and seniors.

Thank you again for your assurances and your support.

Very truly yours,

Rica Lewis-Payton