OFFICE OF GOVERNOR RONNIE MUSGROVE INTEROFFICE MEMORANDUM

TO: KINNEY

FROM: KELLY RILEY

SUBJECT: CALL FROM MARK MUSICK: EDUCATION LEADERS COUNCIL COMMENTS ABOUT YOUR

SUPPORT

DATE 5/21/02 **CC:** KINNEY

Mark Musick of SREB phoned me this morning with the following information. He wanted us to have a "heads up" that the following is floating around.

Mark has received a phone call from someone at the Education Leaders Council (ELC) stating that the Governor is a strong supporter of the ELC and, specifically, its proposed alternative certification process to the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards process. I told him that the Governor is a strong supporter of the National Board program, especially given its success in our state and his serving on the National Board itself. Mark agreed.

As you know, the Governor interviewed with representatives of the ELC in Washington for us to be awarded the Following the Leaders grant. Mark said that the Governor's being at the interview was touted as a symbol of his support for the ELC. I responded that the Governor was there because he was committed to our being awarded the grant.

All of this is important because the ELC was formed when some members broke away from the Council of Chief State School Officers due to a disagreement in management style with the Council's former Executive Director. Mark said that a lot of states have chosen to belong to both entities, rather than to appear to choose a side. Basically, Mark said that the ELC can appear to be very heavy-handed in obtaining its goals. He just wanted us to be aware that the ELC is reportedly touting the Governor's support and that it is an organization that can be seen as negative at times.

Mark said that he'll be happy to discuss this in greater detail with the Governor at the SGA meeting.

I think we should consider contacting the appropriate person at the ELC and explaining the Governor's position as to National Board certification. I will have to contact Mark to obtain the name of the ELC staff who contacted him.

Please advise.