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

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**TO:** RENICK  
**FROM:** RILEY  
**SUBJECT:** SAFE AND DRUG FREE SCHOOLS: LOSING \$40,000 IN 1997 FUNDS  
**DATE:** 8/19/03  
**CC:** FILE

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The federal Safe and Drug-Free Schools and Communities Act provides federal funding to Mississippi for drug prevention programs in school and after school programs. These funds are split, with 80% going to the State Education Agency and 20% going to the Governor. The Division of Public Safety Planning administers the Governor's portion of the grant and may use a maximum of 5% of these funds for administrative costs and distributes the remaining funds through a competitive Request for Proposals process.

Public Safety Planning awards grants to two types of entities: 1) law enforcement education partnerships which utilize the DARE curriculum to promote drug abstinence among elementary through high school students and 2) community organizations which promote drug and violence prevention and also provide mentoring and life skills to students. These programs generally serve approximately 101,000 kids throughout the state.

I received notification from the U.S. Department of Education yesterday that the Governor's program has a balance of \$58,618.27 in funds awarded in July 1997 that has not been liquidated (i.e., drawn down). I contacted staff at Public Safety Planning and spoke to Patsy in accounting. She said that Public Safety Planning actually incurred approximately \$18,700 in costs and they are awaiting USDE's approval to liquidate this amount. This will leave approximately \$40,000 that Public Safety Planning did not incur costs for in 1997, so these funds may not be liquidated and we basically lose them.

Of course, 1997 was Governor Fordice's administration, but I wanted to make you aware of the situation since we are basically forfeiting \$40,000 in resources.