

URGENT – NEED RESPONSE FOR MONDAY, JAN. 21, INTRO DEADLINE

**OFFICE OF GOVERNOR RONNIE MUSGROVE
INTEROFFICE MEMORANDUM**

TO: GOVERNOR
FROM: RILEY
SUBJECT: REP. EADS' DRAFT LEGISLATION CREATING EDUCATION PROGRESS BOARD (HIGHER ED SUMMIT RECOMMENDATION)
DATE: 1/17/02
CC: FILE

As we discussed following the Higher Ed Leadership Summit, Rep. Jay Eads has had legislation drafted creating the Education Progress Board recommended in the report. I've attached the draft bill for your review. **Rep. Eads is awaiting your okay on this language before submitting the draft language, so I need your okay before Monday.** I recommend that you okay the draft bills with the changes noted below.

Eads' bill would create a 15-member Education Progress Board, comprised of:

- the Governor
- the Lieutenant Governor
- the Speaker of the House
- the Executive Director of the Mississippi Economic Council
- the chairman and one other member of the State Board of Education
- the chairman and two other members of the State Board for Community and Junior Colleges
- the three executives of the Institutions of Higher Learning
- three members at large – one appointed by the Governor, one appointed by the Lieutenant Governor and one appointed by the Speaker of the House

The Steering Committee's report recommended a 9-member Education Progress Board comprised of the Governor, Lieutenant Governor, Speaker, the Commissioner of Higher Learning, the Executive Director of the SBCJC, and the State Board of Education and three at-large members. I think we should recommend that Eads' bill reflect this composition (I think the bill drafter misunderstood the intent of the report when drafting the language). Do you agree with this revised composition or do you want to go with Eads' drafted composition?

Revised composition _____ Eads' composition _____

Do you want to appoint the three at-large members or do you want to share these appointments with the Lieutenant Governor and Speaker?

Governor appoint _____ Share appointments _____

Section 2 (line 47) of Eads' draft provides for the Education Progress Board to annually assess the educational progress at all levels and to determine whether the appropriate agencies, institutions or entities of the state have conducted activities to meet the six recommendations and their components of the Steering Committee report.

Line 115 requires the entity to make a report of its work and any recommendations to the Legislature by December 1, 2002.

Line 118 of the draft assigns the Education Progress Board to the Governor's Office for administrative purposes and requires the Governor's Office to assign staff to assist the board.

The draft calls for the act to take effect from and after July 1, 2002.

Please advise as to any concerns or changes that you would like me to share with Rep. Eads. **I need to know by Monday morning.** Thanks!