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OFFICE OF GOVERNOR RONNIE MUSGROVE  
INTEROFFICE MEMORANDUM

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**TO:** GOVERNOR  
**FROM:** RILEY  
**SUBJECT:** SCHOOL-TO-WORK PARTNERS' REQUEST THAT THE OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR CHAIR  
THE SCHOOL-TO-WORK INITIATIVE  
**DATE:** 4/27/00  
**CC:** BOYD  
  
SIMMONS  
  
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The School-to-Work Partners held a training/planning meeting yesterday to reorganize and to provide background for new Partners, both those recently appointed and those new representatives from "old" Partners. During the course of discussing the roles and duties of partners, the need arose to have a central chair for the initiative and the monthly meetings. Suzanne Ulmer, School-to-Work's State Director, pointed out that the initiative had been chaired by Jeanne Forrester of the Governor's Office the first three years of its existence when the state was still trying to be awarded a grant. Mississippi's implementation proposal was submitted by Governor Fordice's office. Mississippi's grant does provide for the State Director, housed at the State Department of Education, to oversee the activities of local partners (grantees) throughout the state.

**The Partners requested that you approve the Governor's representative to the Partners (me for the present time) to serve as chair of the initiative.** The Partners feel that having the Governor's Office chair the initiative will enhance the initiative's objectives and work. Support services (agendas, correspondence, etc.) will be provided by the State Director's Office at the Department of Education.

Recommendation

There are no statutory provisions for the Partners' workgroup. According to MDE documentation, after three unsuccessful grant applications and nearing the final and last date for Mississippi to submit an implementation grant (to receive federal School-to-Work Opportunities Act of 1994 funds), Governor Fordice appointed the Partners' workgroup in March 1998 to develop and manage the state's School-to-Work initiative. I have attached a photocopy of the informational brochure concerning the initiative for your reference, as well as a list of those personnel involved with the initiative.

Mississippi's School-to-Work Partners seek policy guidance from the State Workforce Development Council. This office's chairing the School-to-Work initiative would compliment your commitment to workforce development and should enhance the support of the State Workforce Development Council for your workforce/labor initiatives.

Please advise as to your approval or disapproval of the Partners' request for this office to chair the School-to-Work initiative.

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

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**TO:** GOVERNOR  
**FROM:** RILEY  
**SUBJECT:** SCHOOL-TO-CAREERS WORKGROUP'S REQUEST FOR GOVERNOR'S APPOINTING OF 3  
ADDITIONAL MEMBERS  
**DATE:** 4/18/00  
**CC:** SIMMONS (BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS)

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At its last meeting, the School-to-Careers Workgroup unanimously voted to request that you appoint three additional partners to the workgroup. The group requested the following appointments in order to have parents, industry, and public education interests represented:

Yvonne Steadman, MS Parent-Teacher Association (or her designee)  
Blake Wilson, Mississippi Economic Council (or his designee)  
Dr. William Lewis, Public Education Forum (or his designee)

There are no statutory provisions for this workgroup. According to IHL documentation, after three unsuccessful grant applications and nearing the final and last date for Mississippi to submit an implementation grant (to receive federal School-to-Work Opportunities Act of 1994 funds), Governor Fordice appointed the workgroup in March 1998 to develop and manage the state's School-to-Career plan. The workgroup currently consists of representatives of:

Office of the Governor  
State Workforce Development Council  
Department of Economic and Community Development  
State Department of Education  
State Board for Community and Junior Colleges  
Institutions of Higher Learning

Appointment letters are attached for your signature if you approve of these three appointments.