OFFICE OF GOVERNOR RONNIE MUSGROVE INTEROFFICE MEMORANDUM

TO: GOVERNOR

FROM: RILEY

SUBJECT: SIGNATURE ON MDE'S APPLICATION FOR INNOVATIONS IN GOVERNMEN'T AWARD

DATE 4/13/01 **CC:** FILE

MDE's Child Nutrition Program has been selected as a semifinalist in the 2001 Innovations in American Government Awards Program. Only 100 of the initial pool of 1,263 applications advanced to the semifinalist round. MDE implemented its statewide procurement program in 1991 and the program covers school districts, head start programs and non-profit child care centers. The program is built upon a comprehensive bidding process that covers high volume items direct from the manufacturers. The increased buying power of this large self-funded cooperative has dramatically reduced per meal costs associated with food items and distribution services.

Your signature is required for MDE's application to advance. I have reviewed the supporting documentation. Please sign the attached sheet where indicated.