## OFFICE OF GOVERNOR RONNIE MUSGROVE INTEROFFICE MEMORANDUM

TO: GOVERNOR

FROM: RILEY

SUBJECT: THE COLLEGE BOARD: OPPORTUNITY FOR MISSISSIPPI TO BE 1 OF 5 PILOT STATES FOR

COLLEGE EDUCATION PROGRAM

**DATE:** 11/14/01 **CC:** RENICK

The College Board co-sponsored the recent Governors Education Policy Advisors Institute that I attended. Governor Gaston Caperton, President of the College Board, spoke the first morning of the Institute and Lezli Baskerville, Vice President for Government Relations, attended the entire Institute.

During his comments, Governor Caperton mentioned that the College Board was launching a new "College Education" initiative. This 12-hour course will be provided to 7<sup>th</sup> graders to inform them about college. The College Board wants to pilot this program in 5 states.

Lezli and I had lunch together that day. She has done a lot of work in the Delta, visits Mississippi frequently, and worked on Mike Espy's congressional race. She stated that the College Board would love to see Mississippi be 1 of the 5 pilot states. The College Board will totally fund the entire initiative, so there will be no cost to the state.

This initiative ties in perfectly to our School-to-Careers initiative and also to IHL's recent campaign to 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> graders. Would you like to me to confirm our interest in serving as 1 of the 5 pilot states for this initiative?