

August 13, 2003

Mr. Drew Scheberle
Interim Project Director
Center for State Scholars
400 W. 15th Street, Suite 408
Austin, Texas 78701

Dear Mr. Scheberle:

I am pleased to provide this letter of support for Mississippi's application to the Center for State Scholars for funding and technical assistance to implement a Scholars Initiative in Mississippi.

The Scholars Initiative will educate students on the benefits of undertaking a more rigorous high school course of study. The Initiative will then duly recognize students who successfully complete the advanced curriculum. As a member of the Mississippi House of Representative's Education Committee, I have worked to ensure that Mississippi students' educational experiences prepare them to successfully enter the workforce or to continue their studies. Education is a priority in Mississippi.

The Public Education Forum has served as a catalyst for advancing public education in our state. I had the pleasure of serving on the Forum's Task Force on Teacher Quality and am confident that the Forum will implement the Scholar's Initiative with the same level of professionalism and quality as its other endeavors.

I believe Mississippi's proposal to be worthy of your resources. Thank you in advance for your consideration of our proposal.

Sincerely,

Cecil Brown
House District 66