

If you go to the tax collector's office to buy a new car tag and the computer's down, you're out of luck. If you go to the ATM to make a withdrawal and the computer's down, you don't get your money.

Technology is an integral part of even the most mundane tasks, and when the technology breaks down, it alters our routines and the way we do our business.

By the end of this month, we'll be celebrating the fact that Mississippi is the first state in the nation to have an Internet-accessible computer in every public school classroom. This fact has been confirmed by the National Governors Association, which stated that Mississippi is "at the head of the wave of technological innovation."

More than 32,000 classrooms will have an Internet-accessible computer. Hundreds of thousands of students around the state, from kindergarten through the 12th grade, will have new opportunities to learn. Location or economic status will no longer be factors in the learning process.

That's good for Mississippi, and it's good for our children, and it's good for our future.

I'm Ronnie Musgrove, and this has been the Mississippi Minute. Thanks for listening.