

September 7, 2001

Honorable Thad Cochran
United States Senate
326 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Cochran:

Over the past few months I have been working with Aubrey Patterson, Chairman of the Board and Chief Executive Officer of BancorpSouth, and a distinguished panel of educators, business, legislative, and other community leaders from across our state to develop a shared vision and public agenda for higher education in Mississippi. This is to offer you and your staff an opportunity to learn more about our efforts.

The State of Mississippi was chosen as the first state to hold a Leadership Summit on Higher Education by the Association of Governing Boards of Universities and Colleges (AGB). The purpose of the Summit is to outline what all of higher education, public and private, two-year and four-year institutions can do to advance the competitiveness of our state, and to improve the quality of life of our people. Richard Novak, Executive Director of AGB's Center for Public Higher Education Trusteeship and Governance, who has been leading a team that is facilitating the summit process, would be pleased to schedule a time to brief you or your staff on the summit process to date. You may contact his office in Washington, D.C. at 202-296-8400 to schedule a meeting.

Mississippi's congressional delegation is surely one of the most effective in the nation in targeting resources for higher education programs that will serve our state's citizens and strengthen our economy. As the Steering Committee for Mississippi's Leadership Summit on Higher Education works toward its projected completion date of December 2001, we would appreciate the opportunity to apprise you of our efforts and to hear from you regarding our shared agenda.

Very truly yours,

RONNIE MUSGROVE

RM:klr
Enclosure

September 7, 2001

Honorable Trent Lott
United States Senate
487 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Lott:

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September 7, 2001

Honorable Roger Wicker
United States House of Representatives
206 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Wicker:

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September 7, 2001

Honorable Chip Pickering
United States House of Representatives
427 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Pickering:

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September 7, 2001

Honorable Bennie Thompson
United States House of Representatives
2432 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Thompson:

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September 7, 2001

Honorable Gene Taylor
United States House of Representatives
2311 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Taylor:

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Honorable Ronnie Shows
United States House of Representatives
1408 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Shows:

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