OFFICE OF GOVERNOR RONNIE MUSGROVE INTEROFFICE MEMORANDUM

TO: GOVERNOR

FROM: RILEY

SUBJECT: MISSISSIPPI CENTER FOR COMMUNITY AND CIVIC ENGAGEMENT AT USM'S REQUEST

FOR LETTER OF SUPPORT

DATE 1/14/02 **CC:** FILE

Tom Schnaubelt of the Mississippi Center for Community and Civic Engagement at USM has requested a letter of support from you for the Center's Campus Link AmeriCorps program application. The Center is submitting the application to the Mississippi Commission for Volunteer Services for AmeriCorps members to carry out the activities of the grant proposal. The goals set forth by this proposed initiative include an after-school mentoring program for middle school students designed to increase academic efficacy, build awareness of college opportunities, and reduce risky behaviors among middle school students.

The Center's proposed initiative presents a nice "fit" for several of the goals/recommendations presented at the Higher Education Leadership Summit. The initiative addresses the goals of bolstering the quality of teaching and learning in elementary and secondary schools, increasing college graduation rates, and raising the educational aspirations of citizens.

I have drafted the attached letter of support for your signature. Please sign the letter or mark any changes that you would like to have made. Thanks!