

January 30, 2003

Commissioner Tom Layzell
Institutions of Higher Learning
3825 Ridgewood Road
Jackson, Mississippi 39211

Dear Commissioner Layzell:

Our country is fighting the war on terrorism and is facing the likelihood of war against Iraq. As a result, many of our citizens are being called to leave their families, their careers and their daily routines to fulfill their commitment to America's armed forces. Many of these brave men and women are enrolled in Mississippi's institutions of higher learning.

I understand that Suzanne Sharpe, your Chief of Staff, has discussed the impact of recent military activation on students with General Elton Berry of the Mississippi National Guard. According to General Berry, Ms. Sharpe has indicated IHL's support of these students and willingness to accommodate them in whatever ways possible, including the reimbursement of tuition and fees. I appreciate this support and urge you to grant these students all possible consideration during this time.

Please contact Kelly Riley of my staff at 359-2528 if my office may assist you with this matter in any manner. Again, I commend your administration's support of our students who serve in the armed forces.

Very truly yours,

RONNIE MUSGROVE

RM:klr
cc: General James Lipscomb

January 30, 2003

Dr. Wayne Stonecypher
State Board for Community and Junior Colleges
3825 Ridgewood Road
Jackson, Mississippi 39211

Dear Dr. Stonecypher:

Our country is fighting the war on terrorism and is facing the likelihood of war against Iraq. As a result, many of our citizens are being called to leave their families, their careers and their daily routines to fulfill their commitment to America's armed forces. Many of these brave men and women are enrolled in Mississippi's community and junior colleges.

I understand that you have discussed the impact of recent military activation on students with General Elton Berry of the Mississippi National Guard. According to General Berry, you have indicated the State Board for Community and Junior Colleges' support of these students and willingness to accommodate them in whatever ways possible, including the reimbursement of tuition and fees. I appreciate this support and urge you to grant these students all possible consideration during this time.

Please contact Kelly Riley of my staff at 359-2528 if my office may assist you with this matter in any manner. Again, I commend your administration's support of our students who serve in the armed forces.

Very truly yours,

RONNIE MUSGROVE

RM:klr
cc: General James Lipscomb