

For Immediate Release

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Governor Musgrove Addresses Graduates of Northwest Mississippi Community College

(Jackson, MS) – In a speech today at his alma mater, Governor Ronnie Musgrove urged graduates to be a part of the opportunities available in Mississippi because of strong improvements in education and job creation. Musgrove earned an Associate of Arts degree from Northwest in 1974.

“It’s an exciting time here – and I want you to be a part of it, part of what’s happening across the state,” Musgrove said. “It’s a time when Mississippi is changing, and the rest of the world is taking notice.”

Musgrove cited improvements in education, including the teacher pay raise, the fact that Mississippi is the first state in the nation with an Internet-accessible computer in every public school classroom, and the Legislature answering his challenge to invest in education first and at 62 percent of the state’s budget.

“We are making strong progress, and we’re proving to the people of Mississippi, and the rest of the nation, that we’re serious about education,” he said. “We’re making a strong investment today for strong dividends tomorrow.”

Job creation was another area mentioned by Musgrove, who said great opportunities were available in the state. Under Musgrove’s leadership, more than 52,000 new jobs have been created at more than 2,200 new and expanded facilities, despite the national recession. Capital investments in the state total nearly \$15 billion.

“In the end, we’re looking to the future of Mississippi and asking, where do we want to go?” said Musgrove. “I’ve fought for funding for education and job creation because of the simple fact that good schools attract good jobs, which build good communities.”

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