

**For Immediate Release**

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## **Governor Appoints Director of Appalachian Regional Office**

Jackson, Miss. – Governor Ronnie Musgrove today announced his appointment of Mabel M. Murphree as the Director of the Appalachian Regional Office.

“Dr. Murphree possesses a true understanding of the internal and external workings of the Appalachian Regional Commission,” said Governor Musgrove. “She has the skills needed to help empower citizens and communities to enhance economic development and achieve economic growth.”

The Appalachian Regional Commission (ARC) was established by Congress in 1965 to support economic and social development in the Appalachian Region. The Commission is a unique partnership composed of the governors of the 13 Appalachian states and a presidential appointee representing the federal government. Grassroots participation is provided through local development districts, which are multi-county organizations with boards made up of elected officials, businesspeople and other local leaders.

The ARC helps fund projects in the area of education and workforce training programs, highway construction, water and sewer system construction, leadership development programs, small business start-ups and expansions, and development of healthcare resources.

“I am a strong believer in the mission and goals of the Appalachian Regional Commission and I know first-hand the positive impact an ARC sponsored project can have on a community,” said Murphree.

Murphree received her Bachelor of Science Degree in Business Education from the Mississippi State College for Women, a Masters of Business Education from the University of Mississippi, an Educational Specialist degree in Educational Technology from Mississippi State University, and a Doctor of Philosophy degree in Educational Technology from Mississippi State University.

She is currently an Instructional Technologist and Curriculum Developer for the Center for Educational and Training Technology. She and her husband Bill have two sons and live in Tupelo.

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