

**For Immediate Release**

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**Governor Creates Water and Sewer Task Force**

Jackson, Miss – Governor Ronnie Musgrove today announced his creation of the Governor’s Water and Sewer Task Force at a press conference held at the State Capitol.

“We know the critical importance of safe drinking water for all people and clean water for the state’s growth and development,” said Governor Musgrove. “Many factors threaten the safety of our water, which is why I am establishing the task force.”

The twenty-seven member task force will be a time-limited commission with the sole purpose of assessing, evaluating and recommending action regarding the safeguarding and enhancement of Mississippi’s water resources and infrastructure, and will propose recommendations for assuring the quality and safety of Mississippi’s water resources.

The task force will consist of the following members or their designees: Executive Director of the Department of Environmental Quality, chair; Secretary of State; Commissioner of Agriculture and Commerce; Chief Fiscal Officer; Executive Director of the Mississippi Development Authority; Executive Director of the Emergency Management Agency; Adjutant General of the Mississippi National Guard; State Health Officer; Executive Director of the Department of Marine Resources; Executive Director of the Department of Wildlife, Fisheries, and Parks; Chief of Staff for the Public Utilities Staff of the Public Service Commission; Two (2) Senators as designated by the Lieutenant Governor; Two (2) Representatives as Designated by the Speaker of the House; Executive Director of the Mississippi Municipal Association; Executive Director of the Mississippi Supervisors Associations; Executive Director of the Mississippi Rural Water Association; Executive Director of the Mississippi Water and Pollution Control Operators Association; Executive Director of the Mississippi USDA Rural Development Authority; Chief Engineer of the U.S. Corps of Engineers—Vicksburg District; U.S. Department of Agriculture’s Natural Resources Conservation Service; three (3) representatives, at-large; at least one (1) representative from the Governor’s Office; and, other members not yet included but determined to be necessary by the Governor.

“The health of our children and families, and the protection of our natural resources are of great importance,” said the Governor. “The establishment of this task force will help ensure that our people have the use of clean and safe water.”

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