

For Immediate Release

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(Jackson, MS) – Governor Ronnie Musgrove released the following statement today:

I have allowed almost all of the general fund appropriations bills to become law without my signature. We have reached common ground with the Legislature on many of the priorities important to the people of Mississippi. They met our budget recommendations for the Mississippi Development Authority, workforce training, homeland security, the teacher pay raise, and teacher supplies and textbooks.

However, the individual appropriation bills must add up to a workable budget for the State. The Legislature's reliance on inflated revenue estimates and one time funding is not the fiscally responsible way to run our agencies. With the veto of the Medicaid Appropriations bill, House Bill 1794, the entire budget is in question.

The people of Mississippi demand and deserve a budget based on realistic estimates. They demand and deserve a budget that focuses on education, health care, jobs and public safety. We must take a long hard look at the process by which we budget our taxpayers' dollars to ensure that we are in fact good stewards of their money.

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