

For Immediate Release
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Ceremonial Signing Held for 13 Bills

(Jackson, MS) – In a marathon of ceremonial bill signings, Governor Ronnie Musgrove today put his signature on 13 bills ranging from water and sewer services to newborn health screenings.

“We found a great deal of common ground during the 2002 legislative session, and these bills are significant examples of that,” Musgrove said. “There is a shared commitment found in the bills signed today, a commitment to the people of Mississippi and their quality of life.”

The following bills were signed:

- House Bill 576, designating a segment of U. S. Highway 49 in Simpson County as “Sheriff E. C. Mullins Memorial Highway;”
- Senate Bill 2481, to expand the support of “Crime Stoppers” programs in counties and municipalities;
- House Bill 605, to authorize an additional County Court Judge in Rankin and Madison Counties, respectively;
- Senate Bill 2797, to enhance water conservation;
- House Bill 1562, to require contractors to report payments to subcontractors;
- House Bill 1130, to authorize the Commissioner of Agriculture to make payments to producers of ethanol;
- House Bill 465, to require driver education and training programs to include instruction in organ donation;
- Senate Bill 2095, to provide for the purchase of textbooks for visually and hearing impaired students before the beginning of the fiscal year;
- House Bill 717, to require screenings of newborn infants for conditions specified by the State Board of Health;
- Senate Bill 2501, to authorize distinctive motor vehicle license plates;
- House Bill 1480, to prohibit the use of public funds for abortions at University Medical Center, with limited exceptions;
- Senate Bill 2983, to revise the allocation of funds in the Inmate Welfare Fund;
- Senate Bill 2249, to provide physical education coordinators in K-12 schools, subject to the availability of funds.

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