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Governor Musgrove Reaffirms Commitment to Education on 20th Anniversary of Education Reform Act

(Jackson, MS) – Governor Ronnie Musgrove today praised the passage of the 1982 Education Reform Act, saying it was a visionary plan that changed the way Mississippi looked at education.

“The foundation laid by the Education Reform Act in 1982 is still strong, and we are building on that foundation to lift Mississippi to the next level,” Musgrove said. “The priorities we have today are a reflection of the work done twenty years ago.”

Musgrove said Governor William Winter’s push for education reforms made a difference for Mississippi, and he is committed to continuing that work. Musgrove cited the teacher pay raise that will lift the average salary from 49th to 19th in the nation, the “Computers in the Classroom” initiative, and the state’s top ten ranking in the number of nationally board certified teachers as evidence of progress. Musgrove also referenced his executive budget recommendation of 62 percent funding for education, saying that the state budget should be a reflection of priorities.

“In the end, it’s all very simple,” said Musgrove. “If we shortchange education, we shortchange our future – and that’s not an acceptable alternative.”

Musgrove issued a proclamation reinforcing the state’s “commitment to the future of our children through the promise of continued advancements in education.”

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