

**For Immediate Release**

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## **Governor Musgrove Signs Assistance Bill For Storm Recovery**

(Jackson, MS) – Governor Ronnie Musgrove today signed House Bill 20, legislation calling for the issuance of up to \$10 million in general obligation bonds to assist in the recovery of last Sunday’s devastating storms in Columbus and Lowndes County. Musgrove expanded the call of the special legislative session to address the issue following a visit to the Columbus area.

“The damage that occurred in Columbus, specifically at the Mississippi University for Women, was the worst we’ve seen,” Musgrove said. “It was important to act quickly to make funds available to begin the rebuilding process.”

Under the legislation, up to \$10 million in general obligation bonds can be issued for deposit to the state’s Disaster Assistance Trust Fund to meet the immediate needs for public buildings and infrastructure.

During a visit to Columbus on Thursday, Musgrove met with FEMA Director Joe Allbaugh, who talked directly with President George Bush about a presidential disaster declaration. Bush granted Musgrove’s disaster assistance request over the phone.

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