

**For Immediate Release**

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Statement from John Sewell regarding Department of Human Services:

“Governor Musgrove first anticipated a shortfall on March 30, 2001, when he was anticipating shortfalls in other state agencies as well. In his veto message of House Bill 1625, the DHS appropriations bill, he wrote “we cannot erase the shortfall from this year, anticipate a shortfall for next year, and expect to provide our people with education, health care, safety and other necessary functions of government.”

Statement from John Sewell regarding whether or not an attempt was made to hide a shortfall:

“The Governor sent a clear message in his veto of House Bill 1625 that he was expecting a shortfall – not just in the Department of Human Services, but across the board.”