

For Immediate Release

April 26, 2002

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Governor Musgrove Joins Colleagues in National Medicaid Conference Call

(Jackson, MS) – Governor Ronnie Musgrove participated in a conference call with governors from around the nation today to discuss the Medicaid program and reform measures at the state and national levels. Musgrove is playing an active role in advocating changes in the program to make it more manageable for states.

“This was a good opportunity to discuss the changes we hope to make to Medicaid in Mississippi, and hear from other governors about what’s working in their states,” Musgrove said. “Now that we have the flexibility to manage the program here at home, I will continue working with my colleagues to encourage improvements at the federal level.”

Four primary goals were discussed during the conference call:

- The stabilization of the current program;
- Maximum flexibility for states;
- Requiring the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) to cooperate with, rather than dictate to, the states;
- Giving states tools and incentives to expand coverage to the uninsured.

“With the flexibility to manage Medicaid affirmed this past week, I will be focusing on improving the efficiency and effectiveness of this vital health care program,” said Musgrove. “There are 650,000 Mississippians depending on it, and my fight to ensure they continue to receive health care services isn’t going to end.”

As a member of the National Governors Association Executive Committee, Musgrove will be meeting in Washington, D.C., within the next two weeks to shape the national strategy for achieving the goals of the NGA.

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