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Governor Musgrove Re-negotiates Contracts With Private Prisons

(Jackson, MS) – Governor Ronnie Musgrove announced today the successful re-negotiation of contracts with the operators of private prisons in Mississippi. Management contracts at the five private prison facilities in the state were terminated effective July 1, 2002. The negotiations will save the state approximately \$9 million. The savings break down to \$6 million for Fiscal Year 2003 and \$3 million for Fiscal Year 2004.

“These contracts are consistent with our goal of the best prison management and policies possible,” said Musgrove. “With these new contracts in place, we can focus on better meeting the needs of the entire corrections systems, especially with regards to mentally ill and youthful offenders.”

“We are committed to the very best use of our public dollars,” said Musgrove. “The cooperative spirit of the private prisons and members of the Legislature led to the result we have today.”

The five private prison facilities in the state are run by Wackenhut, the Corrections Corporation of America and Tuscolemeta, Inc.

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