

For Immediate Release

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Governor Musgrove Says “Safe School” Project Offers Greater Protection in Uncertain Times

(Jackson, MS) – The challenges presented after the attacks of September 11, 2001, have refocused attention on emergency preparedness at schools around the state, Governor Ronnie Musgrove said at a press conference today. Musgrove discussed the “Safe School” pilot project being implemented at 12 schools around Mississippi.

“We have a responsibility to every parent and child in this state to make sure their schools are safe, and it’s a responsibility we take seriously,” said Musgrove. “As part of our fulfillment of that responsibility, we have initiated a ‘Safe School’ project in Mississippi.”

The “Safe School” plan was developed and implemented by RMP (Risk Management Planning), LLC. After its successful implementation in Wisconsin, then-Governor Tommy Thompson urged Musgrove to consider a pilot project in Mississippi. Florida is also a pilot state for the project.

“This is a project that uses advanced technology to keep our greatest resource, our children, as safe as possible when they are getting their education,” Musgrove said. “The bottom line is this: Mississippi’s greatest resource is found in schools across the state every day. We have to protect that resource and keep it strong for the future.”

Paul Thomsen, president of RMP, said the “Safe School” project in Mississippi was setting an example for others to follow. “In these days of imminent war and ongoing acts of terrorism, Governor Musgrove’s support of this project is a practical demonstration of his educational leadership, both at the state and national levels, for our children.”

School districts participating in the “Safe School” pilot project include Harrison, Gulfport, Stone, Jackson Public, Cleveland, New Albany, Jones and Yazoo.

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