

**For Immediate Release**

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## **Governor Musgrove Awards \$250,000 Grant to City of Batesville**

(Jackson, MS) – Governor Ronnie Musgrove has awarded a \$250,000 grant to the City of Batesville through the Mississippi Rural Impact Fund Program on behalf of Lowe’s Home Improvement.

“We are providing each community with the resources they need to prosper and provide jobs for Mississippians,” said Musgrove. “The Mississippi Rural Impact Fund Program is one way that we are supporting our communities across Mississippi.”

The funds are awarded by the Mississippi Development Authority (MDA), which also approves grant recipients.

“The Mississippi Development Authority is pleased to assist local officials and business owners in maintaining a stable and flourishing job market,” said Steve Hale, Executive Director of MDA. “The strength of our existing businesses is key to our efforts to create jobs and growth within our communities.”

The Mississippi Rural Impact Fund Program (RIF), administered by the Mississippi Development Authority (MDA), is designed to assist and promote businesses and economic development in rural areas by providing grants and loans to rural communities and loan guarantees to rural businesses. Governor Musgrove proposed the program during his 2003 State of the State and the State Legislature enacted it during the 2003 regular session.

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