

**ARC:**

It's unheard of that the president would slash ARC by 50percent. I made a recommendation to the other ARC govs that we urge the president and the congress to restore the ARC money to full funding. The recommendation passed unanimously. Our people need jobs and the restoration of this funding will help.

**NCLB:**

Under the NCLB accountability standards, MS is one of the states leading the nation (USA Today). I urged President Bush to meet his promise on education funding. (Background: Bush admin promised last year to fully fund NCLB, and this year's budget underfunds accountability standards). I trust the education funding doesn't turn out like the special education funding, where the states have to pick up the costs of a program mandated from Washington.