

Governor Ronnie Musgrove Administration

Education

- Teacher Pay Raise – From 49th to 19th when fully implemented
- First state in nation to place Internet-accessible computer in every public school classroom / confirmed by NGA
- Historic precedent of 2003 session – Invest in education first / increasing investment in education while other states are cutting; 62% of budget
- Princeton Review: 6th best testing system in nation
- Leading other states in preparedness for “No Child Left Behind”, 6th state approved
- 6th in the nation in National Board Certified Teachers
- Chair, Southern Regional Education Board
- Co-chaired Association of Governing Boards of Universities and Colleges Leadership Summit on Higher Education in Mississippi
- Co-chaired the National Governors’ Association and Council of Chief State School Officers’ joint work group to develop common principles related to the upcoming reauthorization of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA).
- Early Childhood Task Force

Economic Development

- Passage of Advantage Mississippi Initiative in first year / most aggressive economic development package in nation
- Nissan – Top economic development project in the nation; \$1.5 billion investment; 5,300 direct jobs
- Nissan suppliers represent another \$1 billion investment and more than 20,000 jobs
- 2,103 new and expanded facilities; more than 50,000 new jobs; over \$14 billion invested – all during national recession
- *Site Selection*: MS one of top ten locations
- MS one of top ten states for small business survival
- January 2003 issue of *Expansion Management* magazine: 4 Mississippi cities (Jackson, Gulfport, Biloxi, Pascagoula) ranked among America’s 50 hottest cities for expansions
- Rural Economic Impact Authority – rural jobs for Mississippi passed \$10 million to support worker training at our junior and community colleges, and to help local communities with their economic development projects.
- East Mississippi/West Alabama Alliance for jobs
- Task Force on E-Government
- Delta Summit

Safety

- “Click It or Ticket” campaign / traffic fatalities down dramatically
- Signed legislation lowering Blood Alcohol Level to .08
- MDOC institutions accredited by American Correctional Association
- Robert Latham serves as Director of Homeland Security
- Amber Alert one of _____ states, prior to federal legislation???
- Domestic Preparedness Summit 2001, First Responders Conference 4/03
- Bioterrorism exercises statewide
- Water and Sewer Task Force
- Incident Command System – emergency responders working together
- More than 4,000 Mississippi citizen soldiers serving under Operation Iraqi Freedom
- Recruiting up dramatically / 500 new soldiers over past three years, after nine years with few new recruits (strength had declined)
- Recruitment of high school graduates up from 62% to 82%

Health Care

- Medical malpractice reform in 2002 special session
- Flexibility for director of Medicaid
- CHIP is “covering kids” – from 500 in 2000 to more than 50,000; healthy kids go to school ready to learn
- Medicaid Spending
- Governor’s Health Care Commission - 2002
- NGA Disease Management Policy Academy
- NGA Dental Services Policy Academy
- UPL/DISH
- Three Health Summits
- Healthcare Proposal Maximizing Federal Funds
- HOPE-Prescription Drug Program
- CDBG for Rural Hospitals on Brink of Closing

Service on National Boards and Commissions

- Board for Directors for the NGA Center for Best Practices
- National Assessment Governing Board
- Southern Regional Education Board, Executive Committee
- National Board for Professional Teaching Standards
- National Governors Association, Executive Committee, Lead Democratic Governor for Education
- Southern Governors Association
- Democratic Governors’ Association, Executive Committee
- Southern States Energy Board, Chairman
- Southern Growth Policies Board, Chairman
- National Board of Directors of Jobs for America’s Graduates
- Serve on National Blue Ribbon Student Financial Aid Panel

