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**OFFICE OF GOVERNOR RONNIE MUSGROVE**  
**INTEROFFICE MEMORANDUM**

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**TO:** RENICK  
**FROM:** SMITH  
**SUBJECT:** MISSISSIPPI HEALTH ADVOCACY PROGRAM  
**DATE:** 10/12/01

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I have done a little research concerning MS Health Advocacy Program (MHAP) and have attached information for your review.

The director, Roy Mitchell, is an attorney. MS Health Advocacy Program is a non-partisan, non-profit public interest organization. Their office is located at the Jackson Medical Mall.

Mr. Mitchell said the fall forums titled: *Women and Children First, Solutions for the Uninsured*, are intended to serve as a follow-up to the *Governor's Health Care Summit, Solutions for the Uninsured*, held in June. Their goal is provide Mississippians with the latest information on Medicaid waivers, as well as to help Mississippians craft community strategies for preserving, strengthening and expanding the Medicaid and CHIP programs. These discussions will offer information from service providers, local policy makers and national experts on issues related to expanding coverage to parents and children.

MHAP is sponsored by Sisters of Mercy Health System. The following is their mission statement:

*The Mississippi Health Advocacy Program strives to be a strong, effective voice for improved health care for all throughout the State of Mississippi, especially those whose health is threatened by poverty, racism, malnutrition, and violence. Mississippi Health Advocacy Program will work with communities to identify health needs and formulate strategies for change, and will research, analyze, propose and promote policies that will enhance the health status of every person, regardless of financial status.*

I thought these forums might be an opportunity to get Governor's Health Care Proposal out there and hopefully gain support. This may not be something he wants or should do. They wanted to know if our office wants to co-sponsor the forums.

I will get Jill to put these dates on the calendar in case he wants to participate. I will also set up a meeting with Rica, Armerita, Peyton, for all of us to discuss as you suggested .