
OFFICE OF GOVERNOR RONNIE MUSGROVE
INTEROFFICE MEMORANDUM

TO: GOVERNOR
FROM: SMITH
SUBJECT: RURAL PROVISION MEDICARE PRESCRIPTION DRUG BILL- LETTER OF SUPPORT
DATE: 7/18/03
CC: RENICK, LEE ANN, KINNEY, BOYD, SEWELL, FRED

Attached is a letter for your approval related to the rural provisions in the Medicare Prescription Drug legislation currently being debated in Washington. The letter only addresses the rural provisions and does not address prescription drugs, dual eligible's, etc. As you are aware, DGA is currently working on positions related to prescription drugs. However, since most states are not as rural as Mississippi, Fred said that DGA or NGA would most likely not be as interested in these provisions as we are and would not have a position.

I called the Mississippi Hospital Association for advice about which provisions would benefit our rural hospitals most and Joey McNulty provided input on the Critical Access Hospital provisions. I have also attached information I received from both of them.

With your approval, I would like to send a copy of the letter to our Congressional delegation, the Hospital Association, anyone that writes our office urging you to support these provisions, the Rural Hospital Association, Ted Cain (owns a Critical Access Hospital), and any other person/association that would gain you support. We will also send a copy to the conferee's debating the legislation.

Does this plan and letter meet your approval?

YES _____

NO _____