
OFFICE OF GOVERNOR RONNIE MUSGROVE
INTEROFFICE MEMORANDUM

TO: GOVERNOR
FROM: RILEY
SUBJECT: FLAG COMMISSION: PUBLIC HEARINGS
DATE 9/22/00
CC: SIMMONS
FILE

At its meeting this past Monday, the Flag Commission decided to hold one public hearing in each of the five congressional districts by November 15. Governor Winter has proposed the following schedule:

Thursday, October 19th: Itawamba Community College, Tupelo Branch
Thursday, October 26th: Meridian Community College, Meridian
Thursday, November 2nd: Delta State University, Cleveland
Thursday, November 9th: Gulf Coast Community College, Gulfport
Monday, November 13th: Millsaps College, Jackson

This is contingent upon the availability of facilities. The Commission would like to hold the hearings at community colleges, as they have auditoriums and we should be able to utilize them at no charge. Armerita has expressed concern as to holding hearings on campuses and exposing students to the negative mindset of opponents of changing the flag. Millsaps had already invited Governor Winter to host a forum on this issue and has agreed for the forum to serve as the public hearing at Winter's request. Please advise as to your thoughts on the proposed schedule and locations.

It appears as if PEER had a legislative assistance request to determine any expenses associated with the Flag Commission. Karen Karr of the PEER Committee Staff left me voicemail on Tuesday inquiring as to such. She spoke to John Gilbert in my absence and he explained that there might be some costs for incidentals associated with the Flag Commission, but that we have no way of identifying those costs. After consulting with John, I spoke to Karr yesterday morning and explained that any incidental costs would be paid out of Office of the Governor's operating expenses. 'She specifically asked about

travel reimbursement and food. I explained that members are not reimbursed mileage or any other travel expenses. Karr inquired as to the fund number for our operating expense account and the specific authority for such expenses. After consulting with Gilbert, I informed her that 2101 is our operating fund and that SB 3249, this office's FY 01 appropriation bill, authorizes you to expend that appropriation for the operation of your office.