

*Remarks for the  
SB2445 Bill Signing  
April 9, 2003*

- Recognize any legislators
  - Public Service Commissioners: Bo Robinson, Neilsen Cochran, Michael Callahan

The people of Mississippi are hard-working people. At the end of the day, they want to come home and spend time with their families. They want to have dinner, and relax in front of the television or with a good book.

They don't want their phone ringing with a telemarketer selling the latest in vacation packages.

Senate Bill 2445 offers some relief. As of July 1, all it will take is one phone call from the consumer to the Public Service Commission, and the calls at home will stop. In addition, telemarketers will be required to register with the Public Service Commission before they can do business in the state.

And, perhaps most importantly, this bill protects the identity of those who choose to end the calls.

This is a consumer-friendly, and a consumer-driven, piece of legislation. The issue of telemarketers and their aggressive tactics has come up before, and I'm pleased that we have been able to work together to find a solution.

The Public Service Commission will oversee the implementation of this bill, and I appreciate their commitment to helping with the solution to this issue.

A great deal of work has been done to make this day possible, and I'm pleased to help bring it all to a close by adding my signature to Senate Bill 2445.

*(sign bill, then return to podium for questions)*