

*Remarks for the
Enterprise Corporation of the Delta
November 5, 2001*

I was at the Tennessee-LSU game a few weeks ago in Knoxville. As my son and I looked out over the crowd, he commented to me that there must be 10,000 different ways to wear orange.

That simple statement helped me realize another fact – there must be 10,000 different ways to do business today.

That's what we're doing in Mississippi, and it's part of what we're doing here today.

Last year, we passed the Advantage Mississippi Initiative – one of the most aggressive economic development packages in the nation, and it has already started paying off for Mississippi.

With this program, we landed the Nissan plant, and that's great news for our state. At the same time, the Advantage Mississippi program is helping hundreds of smaller business around the state.

It's helping attract new businesses and new jobs. It's helping keep old businesses and expand their workforce. It's helping businesses develop and grow and contribute to the economy.

It's one of the 10,000 ways of doing business.

Another is the effort to develop the technological infrastructure of areas such as the Delta.

By building a foundation of technology, we strengthen our efforts in economic development. Businesses want and need technology, and we will provide it.

It's what's needed in the new economy, an economy that's borderless, wireless and global.

Through the work of the ECD and the Southern Technology Council, we're getting the job done.

And another of the 10,000 different ways of doing business? The Emerging Markets Partnership.

This exciting new endeavor will bring strong, positive changes to the Delta, and we will see the difference in businesses, in jobs, in education, in quality of life.

I am committed to the economic growth of the Delta region, a commitment I share with Governor Huckabee and Governor Foster. Our dedication to the people and potential is solid.

Will Rogers once said, “even if you’re on the right track, you’ll get run over if you just sit there.” I know we’re on the right track, and we’re not about to just stay in one place. There’s too much potential here, and too much work to be done.

Thank you.