

EMCC – Mayhew Center for Manufacturing Technology  
Monday, December 11, 2000  
2:30 p.m.  
EMCC, Mayhew, MS

**(Governor this is only a 5 minute speech)**

## **Opening**

- Good Afternoon
- Thank you for having me here today.
- Story

## **Main Points**

1. Strong economic development begins with a strong education
  - a. Good education = Good jobs
    - i. Good high paying jobs
  - b. Business and industry are looking for a strong workforce
    - i. Well educated and skilled people
    - ii. Training and Retraining programs
    - iii. We, the citizens of MS, must be ready (educated & trained) to work for these high tech companies
  - c. That strong education begins in K-12
    - i. Good teachers

1. Competitive salaries
  - a. Helps recruit students into teaching field
  - b. Keeps good teachers in the classroom
- ii. Computers in the classroom
  1. Internet-accessible computers
  2. Task Force – goal end of 2002

## 2. Budget

- a. For the first time, we presented our budget to the committee at the beginning of the budget process
- b. Taken a progressive approach that includes more accountability and fewer excuses
- c. The people's priorities are our priorities
  - i. Quality education
  - ii. Quality health care
  - iii. Economic development
  - iv. Safe communities and homes
- d. We have the committee a plan of action to implement this budget
- e. Maximize federal funds

## **Closing**

- We are focused on providing quality services for the people of MS, while placing an emphasis on efficiency

- We intend on meeting the needs of our people so they can enjoy a good quality of life right here in MS.
- Now have the climate to make that happen in Mississippi
- Success will take leadership, vision and a solid direction
- Bright future for all Mississippians!