

MISSISSIPPI MINUTE

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THE STORMS OF THE PAST TWO WEEKS HAVE CHALLENGED THE PEOPLE OF MISSISSIPPI AND OUR NEIGHBORS ALONG THE GULF COAST. TROPICAL STORM ISIDORE AND HURRICANE LILI REMIND US OF THE POWER OF NATURAL FORCES AND THE RESPECT WE MUST HAVE FOR THEM.

IT IS DUE TO OUR RESPECT FOR THOSE FORCES THAT WE TAKE ACTION QUICKLY. AS THE RECENT STORMS GREW IN INTENSITY AND PROXIMITY TO MISSISSIPPI, THEY WERE CLOSELY MONITORED. THE MISSISSIPPI EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY WORKED CLOSELY WITH FEDERAL EMERGENCY OFFICIALS, THE MISSISSIPPI NATIONAL GUARD AND THE NATIONAL HURRICANCE CENTER TO PREPARE FOR THE IMPACT OF THE STORMS.

WHEN IT COMES TO STORMS LIKE ISIDORE AND LILI, WE WILL NOT DO ANYTHING THAT WOULD PUT THE LIVES OF MISSISSIPPIANS AT RISK, AND THAT SAME COMMITMENT APPLIES TO THOSE EVACUATING FROM OUR NEIGHBORING STATES. OUR SHELTERS AND OUR ROADS ARE ALWAYS OPEN TO THEM, BUT WE CANNOT IMPLEMENT PLANS THAT TAKE AWAY SUBSTANTIAL RESOURCES FROM OUR OWN COMMUNITIES AND PUT OUR PEOPLE AT RISK.

IN THE END, OUR TOP PRIORITY IS THE SAFETY AND SECURITY OF THE PEOPLE OF MISSISSIPPI. OUR ABILITY TO TAKE ON THE CHALLENGES PRESENTED TO US BY NATURE IS ENHANCED BY OUR LEVEL OF PREPAREDNESS FOR ANY SITUATION, AND WE'RE READY FOR WHATEVER COMES OUR WAY.

I'M RONNIE MUSGROVE, AND THIS HAS BEEN THE MISSISSIPPI MINUTE. THANKS FOR LISTENING.

