

Bill Signing
Senate Bill 1134
Monday, May 1, 2000
11:30 a.m.

Talking Points

Be enthusiastic and serious where you need to be. Use low tones and be really firm when you are making future commitments. Stand up straight and no ums and uhs when answering questions.

- Good Morning.
- I would like to thank Lt. Governor Amy Tuck and Speaker Tim Ford for joining me this morning as I sign House Bill 1134.
- I would also like to ask members of the House and Senate who are here this morning to also come forward and join us for the signing.
- (wait for everyone to come forward)
- We stand united in support of Mississippi's teachers and Mississippi's children as I sign this bill into law.
- We worked together, and we got the job done.

- I want to thank the Lt. Governor and the Speaker for their leadership, and I want to thank the members of the House and Senate for their overwhelming support of a teacher pay raise plan that will raise Mississippi's teachers' salaries to the Southeastern average.
- Some people are concerned that the state's revenue growth may not reach the 5% needed each year to give raises to our teachers.
- I have said before, and I want to say again today, that at the start of the next legislative session, I will work to remove the 5% revenue growth stipulation that is in this legislation.
- I know that we can afford to pay our teachers' raises every year, and I am determined to make that happen.
- We are committed to education in Mississippi, and we are showing that commitment to the people of our state and to the nation.
- Our childrens' futures are brighter because we are working to provide them with the educational tools they will need to build their homes, build

their families and build their lives right here in Mississippi.

- (step over to sign the bill)
- (shake hands with everyone behind you)