

## **TUPELO**

### ***Medicaid / House Bill 1200***

- My number one goal in all of this has been to fund the Medicaid shortfall this year without cutting services and access to our children, our seniors and our disabled.
- I'm pleased the House followed my lead in working to resolve the Medicaid shortfall. They asked me for a plan, and I presented one. They asked for specifics, and I offered specifics.
- I still have concerns regarding our people's access to health care. The cuts to providers and prescription drugs, along with increases in co-payments for recipients, remain challenges for us to overcome.

### ***Revenue Estimates***

- Since last spring, I have argued that the revenue estimate adopted by the Legislature was overly optimistic. The January collections continue to drive that point home.
- I appreciate Senator Gordon's support in revising the revenue estimates.
- What's important is using real numbers in our budget, so our agency heads and departments are able to better plan for the year. We have to be fiscally responsible to the people of Mississippi.