

May 1, 2000

TO THE MISSISSIPPI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES:

I am directed by the Governor to advise you that he has approved the following House Bills:

H.B. NO. 874: AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 77-3-509, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO REVISE THE MEMBERSHIP OF THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON TELECOMMUNICATIONS SERVICE FOR THE DEAF AND HEARING IMPAIRED AND TO AUTHORIZE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION TO DESIGNATE A SUCCESSOR ORGANIZATION TO BE REPRESENTED ON THE COMMITTEE IF A SPECIFIED ORGANIZATION CEASES TO EXIST; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES. (April 30, 2000; 3:13 PM)

H.B. NO. 1018: AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 45-3-29, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO PROVIDE THAT IT SHALL NOT BE UNLAWFUL FOR A RETIRED STATE HIGHWAY SAFETY PATROL OFFICER, WITH PRIOR AUTHORIZATION FROM THE COMMISSIONER OF PUBLIC SAFETY, TO WEAR THE UNIFORM AND INSIGNIA OF THE STATE HIGHWAY SAFETY PATROL; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES. (April 30, 2000; 3:14 PM)

H.B. NO. 1080: AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 49-15-64, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO INCREASE FINES FOR ENGAGING IN COMMERCIAL SHRIMPING DURING THE CLOSED SEASON; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES. (April 30, 2000; 3:15 PM)

H.B. NO. 1130: AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 43-6-151, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO CHANGE THE TITLE OF THE MISSISSIPPI SUPPORT DOG ACT TO THE MISSISSIPPI SUPPORT ANIMAL ACT; TO AMEND SECTION 43-6-155, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO ALLOW ALL ANIMALS SPECIFICALLY TRAINED TO ASSIST DISABLED PERSONS TO HAVE ACCESS TO PUBLIC FACILITIES WITH CERTAIN LIMITATIONS; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES. (April 30, 2000; 3:16 PM)

H.B. NO. 1134: AN ACT TO REQUIRE THE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION TO ESTABLISH AND IMPLEMENT A SUPERIOR-PERFORMING AND EXEMPLARY SCHOOLS PROGRAM FOR IDENTIFYING AND GRANTING FINANCIAL INCENTIVES TO LOW PERFORMING SCHOOLS THAT IMPROVE AND TO THE HIGHEST PERFORMING SCHOOLS IN THEIR CLASSIFICATION; TO ESTABLISH CRITERIA FOR THIS PROGRAM SUBJECT TO SPECIFIC APPROPRIATION BY THE LEGISLATURE; TO AUTHORIZE THE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION TO DEVELOP A SCHOOL

IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM AND A PROBATIONARY PERIOD FOR SCHOOLS WITH ACCREDITATION DEFICIENCIES, TO BE DESIGNATED AS "PRIORITY SCHOOLS," TO PROVIDE FOR AN EVALUATION PROCESS, TO PROVIDE FOR THE IDENTIFICATION AND TRAINING OF INDEPENDENT EVALUATION TEAM MEMBERS AND TO PROVIDE SCHOOL EVALUATION PROCEDURES FOR THE EVALUATION TEAMS; TO PROVIDE FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT PLANS FOR PRIORITY SCHOOLS AND TO PROVIDE FOR THE APPOINTMENT OF ASSISTANCE TEAMS BY THE STATE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION; TO AUTHORIZE THE PRIORITY SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT PROCESS TO INCLUDE MANDATORY PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT FOR INDIVIDUAL PRINCIPALS, TEACHERS AND SUPERINTENDENTS OF SUCH SCHOOLS AND TO PROVIDE EMPLOYMENT SANCTIONS FOR PRINCIPALS OR TEACHERS WHO FAIL TO PARTICIPATE IN SUCH PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT, TO PROVIDE FOR A PERFORMANCE-BASED EVALUATION OF SUCH PRINCIPALS AND TEACHERS WHO HAVE PARTICIPATED IN SUCH PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT, TO PROVIDE FOR RECALL ELECTIONS OR APPOINTMENT DECISIONS FOR SUPERINTENDENTS OR SCHOOL BOARD MEMBERS IN CERTAIN SITUATIONS WHERE PRIORITY SCHOOLS DO NOT IMPROVE DEFICIENCIES, AND TO REQUIRE CERTAIN REPORTS BY THE STATE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION; TO AMEND SECTION 37-9-25, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, IN CONFORMITY THERETO; TO AMEND SECTION 37-17-6, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO PROVIDE FOR THE REMOVAL OF AN INTERIM CONSERVATOR AFTER 3 YEARS IN A SCHOOL DISTRICT IF THE SCHOOL DOES NOT DEMONSTRATE SUBSTANTIAL INSTRUCTIONAL IMPROVEMENT; TO AMEND SECTION 37-7-306, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO REQUIRE ALL LOCAL SCHOOL BOARD MEMBERS SELECTED AFTER JULY 1, 2004, TO HAVE A HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMA OR ITS EQUIVALENT; TO ENACT THE "TEACHER OPPORTUNITY PROGRAM (TOP)"; TO AMEND SECTION 37-19-7, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO INCREASE THE SALARIES OF PUBLIC SCHOOLTEACHERS TO THE SOUTHEASTERN STATES' ESTIMATED AVERAGE OVER A SIX-YEAR PERIOD, BY EARMARKING DISCRETIONARY FUNDS IN THE LEGISLATIVE BUDGET OFFICE'S OUT-YEAR BUDGET PLAN; TO PROVIDE FOR THE FOLLOWING TEACHER SALARY PERCENTAGE INCREASES ONLY IN THE EVENT THE SINE DIE GENERAL FUND REVENUE ESTIMATE INCREASES BY AT LEAST 5% IN EACH OF THE OUT-YEARS AS PROJECTED BY THE LEGISLATIVE BUDGET OFFICE: 2% SALARY INCREASE FOR FY 2002, 6% SALARY INCREASE FOR FY 2003, 6% SALARY INCREASE FOR FY 2004, 8% SALARY INCREASE FOR FY 2005 AND 8% SALARY INCREASE FOR FY 2006; TO PROVIDE THAT FOR EACH 1% ADDITIONAL REVENUE GROWTH OVER AND ABOVE THE 5% MINIMUM IN ANY OUT-YEAR, THE TEACHER BASE SALARIES SHALL RECEIVE AN ADDITIONAL 1% INCREASE; TO AMEND SECTION 37-19-21, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO INCREASE THE MINIMUM PROGRAM ALLOTMENT FOR SUPPORTIVE SERVICES IN CONFORMITY THERETO; TO AMEND SECTION 37-21-7, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO INCREASE THE SALARIES OF ASSISTANT TEACHERS IN CONFORMITY THERETO; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES. (May 1, 2000; 11:39 AM)

H.B. NO. 1266: AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 49-15-39, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO AUTHORIZE THE COMMISSION ON MARINE RESOURCES TO ALLOW DREDGING ON AREAS DESIGNATED AS TONGING REEFS FOR A LIMITED TIME FOR THE PROPER MANAGEMENT OF THE RESOURCE; TO AMEND SECTION 49-15-3, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, IN CONFORMANCE THERETO; TO AMEND SECTION 49-15-46, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO REQUIRE A SHELL FEE FOR OYSTERS SHIPPED OUT OF STATE; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES. (April 30, 2000; 3:17 PM)

H.B. NO. 1389: AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 25-3-39, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO EXEMPT THE SALARIES OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND THE GOVERNOR'S CHIEF OF STAFF FROM THE CEILING ESTABLISHED FOR PUBLIC OFFICIALS' SALARIES, TO REQUIRE THE GOVERNOR TO FIX THE SALARIES OF SUCH PERSONS AND TO PROHIBIT SUCH SALARIES FROM BEING SUPPLEMENTED WITH PRIVATE FUNDS; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES. (April 30, 2000; 3:18 PM)

H.B. NO. 1393: AN ACT TO CODIFY SECTION 37-59-301, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO AUTHORIZE SCHOOL DISTRICTS TO ISSUE REDUCED OR INTEREST-FREE DEBT PURSUANT TO FEDERAL LAW; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES. (April 30, 2000; 3:20 PM)

H.B. NO. 1590: AN ACT TO AUTHORIZE THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF BENTON COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI, TO CONTRIBUTE TO THE BENTON COUNTY DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION, INCORPORATED; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES. (April 30, 2000; 3:21 PM)

H.B. NO. 1703: AN ACT TO AUTHORIZE THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF CLARKE COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI, TO CONTRIBUTE FUNDS TO THE BOYS AND GIRLS CLUB OF CLARKE COUNTY; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES. (April 30, 2000; 3:22 PM)

H.B. NO. 1706: AN ACT TO AUTHORIZE THE GOVERNING AUTHORITIES OF THE CITY OF OCEAN SPRINGS TO DONATE A CERTAIN SUM OF MONEY TO THE BOYS AND GIRLS CLUB AND THE YMCA IN JACKSON COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES. (April 30, 2000; 3:23 PM)

Respectfully submitted,

Erich Howard
Legislative Aide