

February 3, 2003

Dear,

Thank you for taking time to share your concerns regarding the recent cuts in the Medicare program. Medicare cuts affecting skilled nursing facilities, including caps on rehabilitation therapy, will negatively impact our seniors who live in nursing homes across Mississippi.

One of the top priorities of my administration has been, and will continue to be, healthcare. Even though my office does not have authority over the Medicare program, please be assured that this issue will be discussed during the upcoming National Governors' Association meetings later this month.

If I can be of further assistance, please do not hesitate to contact Wanda Smith, Health Care Policy Liaison, at (601) 359-9228.

Very truly yours,

RONNIE MUSGROVE

RM/ws