

May 7, 2013

Ms. Jeannie Chaffin, Director Office of Community Services Administration for Children and Families U. S. Department of Health and Human Services 370 L'Enfant Promenade, S. W., 5<sup>th</sup> Floor, West Washington, D. C. 20447

Dear Ms. Chaffin:

I hereby authorize Mr. Richard A. Berry, Executive Director of the Mississippi Department of Human Services (MDHS), to be the official signature authority for all funds appropriated to MDHS by the U. S. Department of Health and Human Services. In addition, I authorize Mr. Berry to sign all assurances for the Community Service Block Grant and Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) grant applications outlined in the respective statute, as amended. To comply with the LIHEAP statute, Mr. Berry is duly authorized to certify that MDHS will comply with the 16 assurances contained in the LIHEAP Act, Title XXVI of the Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1981 as amended, in the administration and operation of its Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program.

The Director of the Division of Community Services, Ms. Tina Ruffin, will serve as the state liaison for the implementation of the Community Services Block Grant and the Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Programs. All routine correspondence from your office should be directed to Ms. Ruffin and you may contact her directly at P. O. Box 352, Jackson, Mississippi 39205 or telephone (601) 359-4768.

Phil Bryant

PB:RAB:tr

cc: Richard A. Berry, Executive Director Mississippi Department of Human Services