

## **Business Leaders for Income Tax Repeal**

March 9, 2022  
*Hand Delivered*

The Honorable Tate Reeves, Governor of the State of Mississippi  
The Honorable Delbert Hosemann, Lieutenant Governor of the State of Mississippi  
The Honorable Philip Gunn, Speaker of the Mississippi House of Representatives  
Honorable Members of the Mississippi House and Senate

**Dear Governor Reeves, Lt. Governor Hosemann, Speaker Gunn, and Honorable Members of the Mississippi Legislature:**

This is Mississippi's moment. With unprecedented revenue surplus, policymakers have a rare opportunity to pass a truly transformational reform that will deliver to our children and grandchildren a more prosperous future.

Each of us work in communities across Mississippi. We're the entrepreneurs, doctors, bankers, farmers, retailers, and small business owners that serve the people of our state. We provide jobs that help our fellow citizens take care of their families, and we provide goods and services that make Mississippi a better place to live.

As business leaders, we recognize the economic challenges facing our state, many of which have persisted for generations. To leap forward, we need a bold paradigm shift—one that signals to the people of Mississippi that we believe in them, to Mississippi businesses that they can afford to grow, and to people outside of the state that Mississippi is open for business and a ripe environment for capital investment.

It is our conviction that the elimination of the income tax in Mississippi, if executed well, could prove to be that paradigm shift. Mississippi has the opportunity to act boldly in becoming the tenth U.S. state without an income tax. Our counterparts in states like Tennessee, Texas, and Florida know all too well the advantages of creating an environment for sustained population and economic growth.

The impact is self-evident: When workers get to keep more of what they earn, they will spend those dollars on their families and in their communities. Increased commerce will create opportunities for businesses to expand, employ more Mississippians, and pay them higher wages. Cumulatively, this type of economic activity promises not only that our people will have access to a higher quality of life, but also that government reliance will diminish.

Mississippi has a historic opportunity to ignite a spark that could transform the state and change lives for generations. It also runs a real risk if it fails to seize this opportunity.

Other conservative states are not standing still. A host of states are presently considering eliminating their income taxes, with places like West Virginia already advancing legislation through one chamber. Additionally, states like Louisiana have made substantial changes to their tax code, reducing their top marginal rate to 4.25 percent. Mississippi should be an early adopter, not a last actor.

Count us in the growing coalition who support going big and eliminating the state's income tax responsibly.

Respectfully,

**Emad Al-Turk**

Waggoner Engineering, Inc.  
Jackson

**David Blackburn**

The Blackburn Group  
Oxford

**Frank Bordeaux**

BXS Insurance  
Gulfport

**Kirby Boteler**

Align IT Group  
Jackson

**Phillip W. Bowman**

Specialty Metals Supply, Inc.  
Jackson

**Brian Cain**

Cain, Inc. and Cain Recyclers  
Kosciusko

**Brint Callaway**

Callaway's Yard and Garden  
Madison

**Joseph Canizaro**

Tradition Mississippi  
Biloxi

**Jackson Coleman**

The Rosedale Company LLC  
Rosedale

**Chip Crane**

FL Crane & Sons, Inc.  
Fulton

**Dr. John D Davis IV**

NewSouth NeuroSpine  
Flowood

**Brandon Elliott**

Elliott Homes  
Gulfport

**Joe Estess**

Entrepreneur  
Tupelo

**Jack Forbus**

State Farm  
Starkville

**Gerard Gibert**

Fmr. Tech Entrepreneur & CEO  
Ridgeland

**Ray and Monica Harrigill**

The Sunray Companies  
Madison

**Joey Havens**

HORNE, LLC  
Ridgeland

**John Hill**

WealthPartners  
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**Price Johnson**

Investor  
Oxford

**Bryan Jones**

Retired Bank Executive  
Yazoo City

**Julie Koestler**

Koestler Prime  
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**David Landrum**

Business Executive  
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Madison Services, Inc.  
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**Eason Leake**

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**Francis Clark Lee**

Tower Loan  
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**John Marchetti**

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**Glenn McCullough, Jr.**

GLM Associates, LLC  
Tupelo

**Bricklee Miller**

Donald Miller Cattle Co.  
Starkville

**Luke Montgomery**

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**Don Noblitt**

Investor  
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**David Ostrander**

Keller Williams Realty  
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The Payne Companies  
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**Bob Phillips**

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**Doug Phillips**

Falcon Contracting Co., Inc.  
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**Bruce Prewett**

Prewett Enterprises, Inc.  
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**Brian Sanderson**

Three Oak Group  
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**Marie Sanderson**

GP3 Partners  
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**Mark Smith**

The CPI Group  
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**Marshall Smith**

Gulf Sales & Supply, Inc.  
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**Joe Stedman**

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**Katherine Swetman**

Current Creative Marketing  
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**Guy White**

White Construction Company  
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Investments  
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