



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Gov. Phil Bryant to Speak at Reagan Institute Summit on Education

Governor of Mississippi will discuss the role of states in education reform

WASHINGTON, D.C. — The Ronald Reagan Presidential Foundation and Institute today announced that Governor Phil Bryant of Mississippi will join the lineup of speakers participating in the Reagan Institute Summit on Education (RISE), held in Washington, D.C., on April 10-11, 2019.

“Gov. Bryant has made great strides in Mississippi, introducing a number of innovations that have revolutionized the experience of students, parents and teachers alike,” said Roger Zakheim, Director of the Reagan Institute. “We’re delighted that he’ll be joining us and eager to hear his thoughts about how his own success can inform reform on a national scale.”

At a welcome reception on April 10 ahead of the conference, Gov. Bryant will address how states can work with one another and with the federal government to drive reform in a conversation with Jeremy Anderson, President of the Education Commission of the States.

“It is an honor to be invited by the Ronald Reagan Presidential Foundation and Institute to speak at the Reagan Institute Summit on Education,” said Bryant. “I look forward to sharing the successes Mississippi has had in the public education arena during my two terms as governor. Transformational education reform, coupled with the hard work of our teachers and students, has paid dividends over the last seven years, and I am excited for the discussion.”

Governor of Mississippi since 2012, Bryant has distinguished himself as a passionate advocate for education reform and economic development. Under his leadership, Mississippi has achieved its highest K-12 graduation rate in state history, and his “2013 Education Works” legislation was the state’s largest education policy initiative signed into law. In 2014, Mississippi received the Frank Newman Award for State Innovation from the Education Commission of the States for outstanding innovation in state education policy.

Prior to his election to the governorship, he served as lieutenant governor from 2008 to 2011, as state auditor from 1996 to 2008 and representative in the Mississippi House of Representatives from 1991 to 1996. Having earned his associate’s and bachelor’s degrees at Mississippi public institutions and having studied and taught at Mississippi College, he is an ardent believer in the power of education to transform both an individual life and the fabric of civil society.

Bryant joins other leaders in education, policy, business and technology participating in RISE 2019, including Sen. Lamar Alexander, Rep. Virginia Foxx, Sen. Tim Kaine, Pennsylvania Secretary of Education Pedro Rivera, Founder of Khan Academy Sal Khan and many others. Throughout the conference, bipartisan panels and plenaries will foster conversation on a wide range of education policy issues. These issues include developing a holistic approach to education, preparing students for the job market of the future, surveying the higher education horizon and setting audacious national goals for our education system.

RISE 2019 is open to registered media. For more information, visit www.reaganfoundation.org/reagan-institute or follow RISE on Twitter @ReaganInstitute. Join the conversation with #RISE2019.

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About the Ronald Reagan Presidential Foundation and Institute

The Ronald Reagan Presidential Foundation and Institute is the nonprofit organization created by President Reagan himself and specifically charged by him with continuing his legacy and sharing his principles - individual liberty, economic opportunity, global democracy and national pride. The Foundation is a non-partisan organization which sustains the Ronald Reagan Presidential Library and Museum in Simi Valley, CA, the Reagan Center for Public Affairs, the Presidential Learning Center, The Air Force One Pavilion and the award-winning Discovery Center, as well as the Reagan Institute in Washington, D.C. Ronald Reagan said, "**Freedom is never more than one generation away from extinction.** We didn't pass it on to our children in the bloodstream. It must be fought for, protected, and handed on for them to do the same, or one day we will spend our sunset years telling our children and our children's children what it was once like in the United States where men were free."

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