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STATE OF ALABAMA



## **DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HEALTH**

200 INTERSTATE PARK DRIVE

P. O. BOX 3710 MONTGOMERY, ALABAMA 36193-5001



ABAM

3 JAN 1984

December 30, 1983

Dr. Carlton Turner, Director White House Drug Policy Office Room 281 Old Executive Building OE-B White House Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Dr. Turner:

We are sorry that you cannot speak during the Second Annual Governor's Conference on Drug Awareness. We feel that the conference will be excellent and that parents across Alabama will have an opportunity to learn more about drug abuse and its negative consequences, as well as, how they can help their own families, neighborhoods and communities. We do feel, however, that your decision was based on some <u>incorrect</u> information.

First, we have never had plans to serve alcohol at any event associated with the conference and secondly, we feel that the public, particularly parents, have been given numerous opportunities to help plan as well as participate in the conference.

As you can see from the enclosed brochure, the State Lions Club, Alabama Elks Association, Alabama 4-H, Alabama Junior League and the Auxiliary of the Medical Association of Alabama have all selected planning committee representatives and are either on the program agenda themselves or have recommended the presentors for the conference. In addition, the program is free of charge in order to attract the general public as well as parents from all income levels. The State PTA is also a co-sponsor and has heavily promoted the conference statewide. To imply that it is for professionals and not the parents of Alabama is inaccurate and based on severely lacking information. We would hope that you would research the source of your information to check its validity.

Again, we are sorry that you cannot attend the conference. We hope that it is as successful as our First Annual Governor's Conference.

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464 File Dr. Carlton Turner Page 2 December 30, 1983

If you need more information, please feel free to contact me at (205) 271-9250.

Sincerely,

Mary Lee Shannon, Director Division of Mental Illness and Substance Abuse Community Programs

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