



Brandon Presley's War On Corruption Plan

A Note From Brandon:

Our state can be a model for ethics, but Tate Reeves has made us an embarrassment. Tate Reeves is embroiled in the largest public corruption scandal in state history for his involvement in funneling over a million dollars to his personal trainer and allowing \$77 million taxpayer dollars to be stolen or misspent under his watch. If Tate's welfare scandal has shown us anything, it's what we all knew to be true: that state government works for Tate's good ol' boys, lobbyists, and personal friends while working people are left in the dust. We need to sanitize our state government that is infected with corruption so we can have a government that responds to the people, not just a government that is auctioned off to the highest bidder.

As Public Service Commissioner, I saw firsthand how big utility companies have too much influence and put their profits first and Mississippi families last. I've stood up to giant corporations when they tried to fleece Mississippi taxpayers into footing the bill for their boondoggle - despite Democrats and Republicans and their favorite lobbyists with giant checks encouraging me to vote yes on the Kemper Power Plant. That's why I opened up Public Service Commission meetings because the public's business should be open to the public.

I grew up with a single mama who fought to keep our lights on and put food on the table for me and my siblings. Government should be working for working people like my mama, not the giant corporations that can write big campaign checks and have politicians on speed dial. But what I found on the Public Service Commission was that the government was feeding the very people they were supposed to be regulating. That's why I ended the practice of the Public Service Commission buying donuts and snacks for lobbyists - because the government should serve the people, not corporate lobbyists.

As governor, we're going to tell the special interest, lobbyists, and the good ol' boys that the party is over. I will upset special interests even more by starting out on day one by calling a special session so every Mississippian can see exactly where their representatives stand on our historic ethics reform package and whether they stand for corruption or clean government. The first plank of my war on corruption plan will curb the power of lobbyists and giant corporations



and in the coming weeks, our campaign will unveil more ways we plan to clean up state government.

This plan is just the start of our war on corruption. As governor, I will continue to work with ethics experts and continually fight anybody and anything so Mississippians have the open and transparent government they deserve.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Brandon Presley".

Brandon will use the power of the governor's office to call a special session on a comprehensive ethics reform plan so Mississippians can see whether their representatives stand on the side of the people or their lobbyists. Here is the first plank of Brandon's war on corruption plan, which he will make the legislature vote on in a special session:

1) CURB THE INFLUENCE OF LOBBYISTS AND GIANT CORPORATIONS

- Limit the gifts that politicians could receive from lobbyists, and require regular disclosure of gifts and lobbying activities.
- Set boundaries on the unlimited flow of campaign contributions from individuals and groups, and ban direct contributions from corporations.
- Ban state politicians from receiving campaign contributions during the Legislative session.
- Enforce a one-year waiting period for former government officials to become lobbyists and vice versa.
- Implement tougher punishments for politicians who violate ethics and campaign finance laws.



- Open up the Legislature and state government to more transparency by expanding the open meetings law and holding every state agency accountable for responding to public records requests on time.
- 2) CLEAN UP THE LARGEST PUBLIC CORRUPTION SCANDAL IN STATE HISTORY
- Hire an independent investigator appointed by the Ethics Commission that cannot be fired by the governor or the legislature, a departure from Tate Reeves, who fired the investigator once he got too close to his lobbyist buddies who gave him football tickets.
 - Create a Task Force on Public Integrity with appointments from the state auditor, attorney general, and executive director of the Department of Finance and Administration to review all state contracts and evaluate the performance of any recipient of taxpayer dollars, with a focus on the Department of Human Services because under Tate Reeves' watch as lieutenant governor, he failed to provide oversight of \$77 million that was stolen or misspent at DHS.
- 3) CREATE A STRONG, NON-PARTISAN WATCHDOG
- Empower the Mississippi Ethics Commission to hold state government accountable as a non-partisan and independent body with the authority to audit, investigate and penalize politicians who violate ethics and campaign finance laws.
 - The Ethics Commission will hold all campaign finance reporting and enforcement responsibilities.
 - Require campaign finance reports be available online and easily accessible to the public, and due every 30 days in an election year and quarterly in non-election years.
- 4) RESTORE INTEGRITY TO THE GOVERNOR'S OFFICE
- Establish a "Governor's Blue Ribbon Task Force on Transparency and Accountability" composed of private citizens and good governance experts. The Task Force shall recommend to the governor and legislature specific action items to clean up state government.



- Support legislation to prohibit companies seeking a license, permit, or non-competitive contract, along with their agents, PACs, and employees, from donating more than \$250 to political campaigns from the date of solicitation and/or for 12 months after the final award is made.
- Require the governor's office and all state agencies to keep records of all meetings with lobbyists and companies and individuals lobbying the government for contracts or legislation that benefits them.