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**Mississippi Launches AI Innovation Hub
to Drive Statewide Advancement in Artificial Intelligence**

Jackson, MS – The Mississippi Department of Information Technology Services (ITS) is proud to announce the launch of the ITS AI Innovation Hub, a groundbreaking initiative designed to position Mississippi as a leader in artificial intelligence (AI) innovation, education, and workforce development. This transformative effort is in partnership with Amazon Web Services (AWS) and the Mississippi Artificial Intelligence Network (MAIN).

The ITS AI Innovation Hub will serve as a cornerstone for fostering collaboration among state agencies, higher education institutions, and private industry. Through this initiative, Mississippi aims to accelerate the deployment of AI-driven solutions to enhance public services, boost economic growth, and equip the workforce with cutting-edge AI skills.

"Governor Reeves' issuance of Executive Order No. 1584 underscores Mississippi's commitment to innovation and collaboration in the field of artificial intelligence," said Dr. Craig P. Orgeron, Executive Director of ITS and CIO for the State of Mississippi. "By fostering partnerships between state agencies, higher education, and industry leaders like AWS, we are poised to accelerate technological advancement and workforce development across the state. The ITS AI Innovation Hub will serve as a catalyst for driving economic growth, equipping our students with practical AI skills, and enhancing public services through AI-driven efficiencies. This is a transformative moment for Mississippi, and we are proud to lead the charge in harnessing AI for the betterment of our citizens and communities."

Key components of the ITS AI Innovation Hub include:

- **Proof of Concept (POC) Development:** AWS will provide funding and resources for POC projects, offering students hands-on experience within a sandbox environment.
- **Educational Investment:** The initiative includes AI/ML curriculum contributions from AWS to enhance higher education programs and equip students with real-world skills.
- **Economic Growth:** AWS's local zone investments and collaborations will expand Mississippi's tech infrastructure, attracting high-value jobs and driving innovation.
- **Improved Public Services:** AI-driven efficiencies will streamline processes across state agencies, demonstrating the transformative potential of AI technology.

The ITS AI Innovation Hub builds on existing success stories, such as the AI-powered bill summarization application for the Mississippi Legislative Budget Office, developed using AWS Bedrock. By aligning AI initiatives with state priorities, Mississippi is laying the foundation for a vibrant, innovation-driven future.

For more information about the ITS AI Innovation Hub and how it aims to transform Mississippi through artificial intelligence, contact Stephanie Hedgepeth at 601-432-8237 or stephanie.hedgepeth@its.ms.gov.

About ITS

The Mississippi Department of Information Technology Services leads the state's efforts in technology innovation and digital transformation, driving efficiency and collaboration across public services.