



Re: Hate Crime Legislation in Georgia

May 17, 2020

Dear Lt. Governor Duncan, Senate Judiciary Committee Chairman Jesse Stone & Remaining State Senators,

We are a group of concerned Georgians brought together as participants in the **Leadership Atlanta (LA) Class of 2020, the 50th Anniversary Class and supporting LA Alumni**. We represent leaders from major corporate, civic, education, philanthropic and faith-based organizations. We have made a commitment to each other, our families, our colleagues, our classmates and to our communities to stand together and stand up for love and stand against hate. As we stand together, we stand up for justice and stand against injustice.

We, the authors of this letter, have either experienced discrimination and hate because of the color of our skin or have reaped the benefits of white privilege. Regardless of our upbringing, religion, sexual orientation, gender identity, cultural background, country of origin or the color of our skin, we have pledged publicly and to one another that we will raise our voices and advocate for those that do not have the platform to advocate for themselves. We have pledged to use our influence and leverage our networks and platforms to ensure that every community across the state of Georgia is a place where all our citizens live in harmony, have equal protection, equal opportunity, and equal justice.

It is with this thought in mind that we are raising our voices to thank the House of Representatives for passing [House Bill 426](#) and now stand together to petition the Senate Judiciary Committee to continue the execution without delay or amendment. The State of Georgia is only one of four states in the United States that does not have formal hate crime legislation. It is time for our State Leaders to stand up and declare that Georgia will stand for love and will not tolerate hate. Now is the time for Georgia to take its rightful place as the leader in civility, love, and justice for every one of our citizens; not just those born with the right skin color, religious affiliations, cultural heritage, or sexual preference. We seek to put the human back into humanity. Every Georgian deserves equal protection under the law and equal justice when their rights are violated.

As corporate and public leaders, we are appreciative of your leadership in making Georgia the number one state in which to do business. We should also lead the way in protecting victims of crimes involving injustice and prejudice establishing precedent that perpetrators will be prosecuted at the highest level possible rather than watching our state being mocked for intolerance and hate. Covid-19 cannot be an excuse for injustice against any group. We can and must do better. This is the obligation we have as leaders. Our inspirational leaders of the past like Robert W. Woodruff and Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. stood for love and stood against hate. We petition that our current leaders take up this mantle and do the same. Now is your time to create your legacy. A legacy that we can all be proud of.

Dr. King reminds us that: "Darkness cannot drive out darkness; only light can do that. Hate cannot drive out hate; only LOVE can do that." Let's stand for LOVE and drive out HATE by passing [HB 426](#) without delay.

Concerned members of LEADERSHIP ATLANTA CLASS OF 2020 and supporting LA ALUMNI,

SPONSORS (SEE PAGE 2 FOR SUPPORTERS):

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FARAZ IQBAL	GAIRY MOORE	NONET SYKES	PJ BAIN	TAMEKA RISH	

CC GOVERNOR KEMP SPEAKER RALSTON STATE REPRESENTATIVES



SUPPORTING MEMBERS OF LEADERSHIP ATLANTA CLASS OF 2020 AND SUPPORTING LA ALUMNI

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LEONARD ADAMS - LA 2016
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MARLENE ALEXANDER - LA 2017
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AFSHAN ALI - LA 2018
DOUGLAS ANDER - LA 2010
DEANNA ANDERSON - LA 2018
CHRIS APPLETON - LA 2019
RICK ARANSON - LA 2018
MATT ARKIN - LA 2015
ELAINE ARMSTRONG - LA 2020
DAWN ARNOLD - LA 2020
HANY ATALLAH - LA 2015
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JAY BAILEY - LA 2014
PJ BAIN - LA 2020
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LA'KEITHA CARLOS - LA 2019
MERIA CARSTARPHEN - LA 2019
DEKE CATEAU - LA 2019
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ANDREW CHANG - LA 2019
ED CHANG - LA 2019
JERRY CHANG - LA 2020
ROBIAUN CHARLES - LA 2019
KRISTINA CHRISTY - LA 2020
KATHY COLBENSON - LA 2003
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SHAWN COLE - LA 2020
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JAY CRANMAN - LA 2018
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CHAD CUNNINGHAM - LA 2019
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DIANA CHAMP DAVIS - LA 2019
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BEN DEUTSCH - LA 2012
NARINDER DHALIWAL - LA 2019
DERIN DICKERSON - LA 2016
MIKE DONNELLY - LA 2014
KAREN DOOLITTLE - LA 2020
ANGELA DOTSON - LA 2018
PAM DRIESELL - LA 2020
DARION DUNN - LA 2020
LISA DWYER - LA 2014
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ED ESCHLEMAN - LA 2019
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DURIYA M. FAROOQUI - LA 2018
MARK FEINBERG - LA 2020
JODI FLEISIG - LA 2018
ELIZABETH FORD - LA 2019
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STACI FOX - LA 2015
JAMES FRANKLIN - LA 2016
HAROLD E. FRANKLIN, JR. - LA 2019
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ART GAMBILL - LA 2018
BEN GARREN - LA 2017
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SHARON GILES - LA 2004
JEFF GLAZIER - LA 2019
ERIC GLIDEWELL - LA 2020
DEIRDRA D. GLOVER - LA 2014
SANDY GORDON - LA 2012
JAMIE GRAHAM - LA 2019
RYAN GRANT - LA 2019
F. STUART GULLEY - LA 2010
JAMILA M. HALL - LA 2017
LUCY HALL - LA 2017
MEREDITH HALSEMA -
JOSEPH HANDY - LA 2019
C MILANO HARDEN - LA 2011
ADAM HARRELL - LA 2019
KIM HARTSOCK - LA 2016
CAROL HENDERSON - LA 2012
WILL HERMAN - LA 2019
JENNIFER HIGHTOWER - LA 2012
TALBERT HILL - LA 2020
ERIC HILTON - LA 2012
KEISHA HINES - LA 2019
JOSH HIRSH - LA 2019
ELIZABETH HOEMEKE - LA 2019
DOCK HOLLINGSWORTH - LA 2017
RAPHAEL HOLLOWAY - LA 2020
YENDELELA NEELY HOLSTON - LA 2020
JUSTIN HONAMAN - LA 2014
MONIQUE HONAMAN - LA 2016
KEITH HORTON - LA 2017
JULIA HOUSTON - LA 2018
ZENITH HOUSTON - LA 2020

SARAH HSI - LA 2020
SCOTT HULSEY - LA 2014
JOHN P. HUTCHINS - LA 2019
FARAZ IQBAL - LA 2020
DANIEL ISRAEL - LA 2014
CONN JACKSON - LA 2020
LOLITA JACKSON - LA 2019
EHAB JALEEL - LA 2016
MARY CAMPBELL JENKINS - LA 2020
QUINNIE JENKINS - LA 2020
JOSE M. JIMENEZ - LA 2018
KWAME JOHNSON - LA 2020
MICHAEL D. JOHNSON - LA 2012
NANCY A. FLAKE JOHNSON - LA 2010
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DIONYSIA JOHNSON-MASSIE - LA 2012
ALISON JONES - LA 2018
MICHELLE SLOAN JONES - LA 2020
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JONATHAN KARRON - LA 2017
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JENNA KELLY - LA 2019
NATALIE KENG - LA 2020
SOUMAYA KHALIFA - LA 2015
MONICA KHANT - LA 2015
REED KIMBROUGH - LA 2005
BERNICE A. KING - LA 2020
TRICIA KINNEY - LA 2020
CAROL KISSAL - LA 2019
ELISA KODISH - LA 2019
LAUREN KOONTZ - LA 2018
TRUDY KREMER - LA 2020
DEBORAH LAM - LA 2019
ATTICUS LEBLANC - LA 2020
REBEKAH LEMON - LA 2019

BRADLEY G. LEVENBERG - LA 2017
DAVID LEWIS - LA 2012
MARVA LEWIS - LA 2017
PASCAL LEWIS - LA 2019
SCOTT C. LIGHT - LA 2020
MICHAEL LIPTON - LA 2019
MILTON LITTLE - LA 2010
STAN LITTLE - LA 2020
TRACEY LLOYD - LA 2018
BRYAN LONG - LA 2012
DAVID LONG - DANIELS - LA 2012
BRENDA LOPEZ - ROMERO - LA 2020
DANA MARIE LUPTON - LA 2016
JEFF MAGGS - LA 2020
RICHARD MAKERSON - LA 2020
ROHIT MALHOTRA - LA 2019
MARCUS MARGERUM - LA 2019
KATHLEEN MARRAN - LA 2017
DAVE MATHEWS - LA 2017
CELENA MATLOCK - LA 2019
CHARLES MAXELL, JR - LA 2020
WILLIE MAYBERRY - LA 2019
ANDREW MCCONNELL - LA 2020
GERALD MCDOWELL - LA 2019
JAMALA MCFADDEN - LA 2017
JUAN MCGRUDER - LA 2018
JENNIFER MCKEEHAN - LA 2020
PETER MCKNIGHT - LA 2020
WHITCLIFF A. MCKNIGHT, JR - LA 2018
STEVE MENSCH - LA 2020
ADDISON MERIWETHER - LA 2019
STEFANIE MILLER - LA 2020
KEITH MILLNER - LA 2018
DAVID MINKIN - LA 2005
GLENDA MINKIN - LA 2004

PROJECTLIGHT

CLYDE MIZE - LA 2020
JOSH MOFFITT - LA 2019
GAIRY MOORE - LA 2020
MEREDITH C. MOORE - LA 2017
JILL MORRISEY - LA 2020
JOHN MORROW - LA 2019
VIKKI MORROW - LA 2009
ANDREW MUCH - LA 2012
KEVIN MURRIEL - LA 2019
JANINE MUSHOLT - LA 2019
CAROL R. NAUGHTON - LA 2016
ROBERT NIBBS - LA 2015
JESSICA NUNAN - LA 2019
ERIC O'BRIEN - LA 2018
SUSAN O'FARRELL - LA 2012
SANJAY PAREKH - LA 2014
CHAD PARKER - LA 2018
DAVID M. PAULE - LA 2015
BRIAN PAULING - LA 2018
BRIGITTE PECK - LA 2019
MATT PIEPER - LA 2018
CONDACE PRESSLEY - LA 2016
SARA PRINCE - LA 2020
JULIETTE PRYOR - LA 2019
CHRIS PUMPHREY - LA 2020
ERIC QUALLS-BATTEY - LA 2010
DORIS QUIROS - LA 2010
ERIK RATHKE - LA 2020
SHYAM REDDY - LA 2010 LEAD 05
JOSEPHINE REED - TAYLOR - LA 2010
DENISE REESE - LA 2017
MITCH REINER - LA 2019
MOLLYE RHEA - LA 2012
DEBORAH RICHARDSON - LA 1987
TAMEKA D. RISH - LA 2020

JEROME ROBERTS - LA 2019
BLYTHE KEELER ROBINSON - LA 2015
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WANDA RODWELL - LA 2019
HEDY RUBINGER - LA 2019
SHANNON SALE - LA 2017
ROBIN SANGSTON - LA 2014
MARIA SAPORTA - LA 2020
KERRI SAUER - LA 2017
MIKE SCHLEIFER - LA 2020
ROB SCHREINER - LA 2020
JIM SCHRODER - LA 2020
TED SCHWARTZ - LA 2020
ALEXANDER SCOLLON - LA 2019
NZINGA SHAW - LA 2019
THAD SHEELY - LA 2020
JASON SHEFRIN - LA 2020
MEREDITH SIDEWATER - LA 2019
TODD SILLIMAN - LA 2014
GINA SIMPSON - LA 2010
CHRIS SIZEMORE - LA 2019
NATHANIEL SMITH - LA 2009 LEAD 05
THEIA SMITH - LA 2018
JEFF SMYTHE - LA 2014
DENISE STARLING - LA 2014
CORTENEY "C.J." STEWART - LA 2015
GARY W. STEWART - LA 2020
CATI DIAMOND STONE - LA 2018
LAURI STRAUSS - LA 2015
TRACY RATHBONE STYF - LA 2017
NONET SYKES - LA 2020
CHRISTINA SZCZEPANSKI - LA 2019
JUDY TABB - LA 2004
DAVID VASSAR TAYLOR
HERMAN TAYLOR - LA 2020

KATERINA TAYLOR - LA 2016
MICHELE TAYLOR - LA 2018
WILLIAM "T" THOMPSON - LA 2006
JOHN TIEN - LA 2018
BRIAN TOLLESON - LA 2020
EVAN TOPOREK - LA 2015
BELISA M. URBINA - LA 2017
STEPHEN VAULT - LA 2015
AL VIVIAN
ADAM WALKER - LA 2020
MITCHELL L. R. WALKER - LA 2020
BECKY WARD - LA 2015
DAVE WARD - LA 2020
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