



STATE OF ARKANSAS
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

July 14, 2021

Dear Secretary Key,

We write today to express our sincere concern with the recent announcement of the Arkansas Governor's School's curriculum and agenda for the 2021 term. We believe that the teaching of racist or hateful theory through the spending of taxpayer dollars is a disservice to our students and a misuse of the public trust.

Arkansas Governor's School, since its inception in 1979, is committed to investment in the state's most promising students, those who will be innovators in government, economics, professions, and community or public service. In a time of increased political polarity, we cannot allow or encourage further division based on factors such as race, gender, or socioeconomic background.

As we strive for a more unified state and nation, our first duty is to our students and to our tax-paying constituents. Arkansas Governor's School and other state-funded educational programs must ensure that students are granted a well-rounded experience which will prepare them for positions of leadership. We cannot allow this personal and professional development to be hindered by prejudiced rhetoric and radical theories which perpetuate a divisive environment.

In keeping with the Arkansas State Legislature's most recent session, we ask that the Arkansas Department of Education halt such prejudiced rhetoric and teaching of radical theories immediately and that alternate instruction be found for the students' academic schedule.



We urge you to consider this with the utmost care for the continued success and progress of Arkansas and its most valuable of future leaders.

Sincerely,



Mary Bentley
State Representative
District 73



Rick Beck
State Representative
District 65



Michelle Gray
State Representative
District 62



Frances Cavanaugh
State Representative
District 60



Cindy Crawford
State Representative
District 76



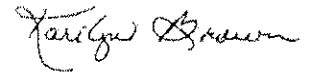
Delia J. Haak
State Representative
District 91



Ron McNair
State Representative
District 98



Joe Cloud
State Representative
District 71



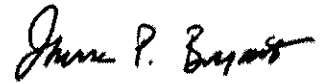
Karilyn Brown
State Representative
District 41



Johnny Rye
State Representative
District 54



Richard McGrew
State Representative
District 22



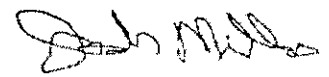
Joshua P. Bryant
State Representative
District 96



David Ray
State Representative
District 40



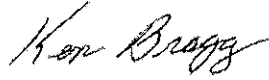
Robin Lundstrum
State Representative
District 87



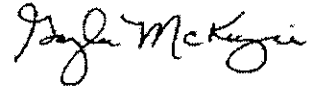
Josh Miller
State Representative
District 66



Nelda Speaks
State Representative
District 100



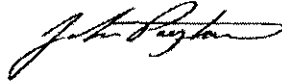
Ken Bragg
State Representative
District 15



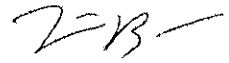
Gayla Hendren McKenzie
State Representative
District 92



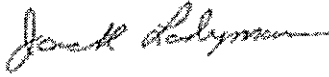
Julie Mayberry
State Representative
District 27



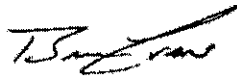
John Payton
State Representative
District 64



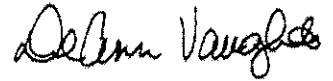
Justin Boyd
State Representative
District 77



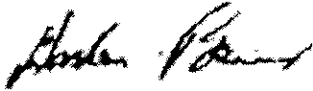
Jack Ladyman
State Representative
District 59



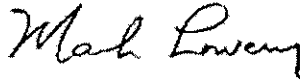
Bryan S. Evans
State Representative
District 43



DeAnn Vaughn
State Representative
District 4



Harlan Breaux
State Representative
District 97



Mark Lowery
State Representative
District 39



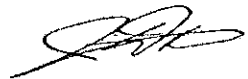
Howard M. Beaty, Jr.
State Representative
District 9



Marcus Richmond
State Representative
District 21



Jim Wooten
State Representative
District 45



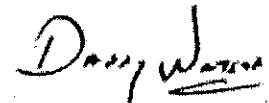
Jim Dotson
State Representative
District 93



Dwight Tosh
State Representative
District 52



Bruce Coleman
State Representative
District 81



Danny Watson
State Representative
District 3