



June 5, 2020

The Honorable Brian Kemp
Governor of Georgia
206 Washington Street SW
Suite 203, State Capitol
Atlanta, GA 30334

Dear Governor Kemp,

First and foremost, on behalf of Emory, we would like to offer our sincere appreciation for your leadership during this difficult time. All of us are grappling with the violent deaths of Georgia resident Ahmaud Arbery, Minneapolis citizen George Floyd, Kentucky citizen Breonna Taylor, and too many other instances of racism and violence against people of color. These senseless acts strike at the heart of Emory's commitment to upholding equity, diversity, and inclusion.

As you know, Georgia is among a handful of states that do not have a hate crimes law. It is time to stand together against intolerance and racism and pass legislation that addresses these critical issues. The Emory community stands for justice in all aspects of our mission, and when confronted with hatred and prejudice, we must speak out.

Emory is firmly committed to a better Georgia. As the General Assembly reconvenes to complete the 2020 Legislative Session, we write to urge you to support, approve, and sign into law a comprehensive bill against hate crimes. While we advocate for the passage of hate crimes legislation, we also understand that this, alone, is not enough. We will continue to encourage government leaders and our communities to engage in sincere dialogue about race and equality and stand united against violence and discrimination.

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As we seek a more just and equitable Georgia for all, Emory stands ready to provide any assistance or support you may need to pass hate crimes legislation this year.

Sincerely,



Claire E. Sterk, President



Gregory L. Fenves, President-Elect

Cc: The Honorable David Ralston, Speaker of the House
332 State Capitol
Atlanta, Georgia 30334

Cc: The Honorable Geoff Duncan, Lt. Governor
206 Washington Street SW
Suite 240, State Capitol
Atlanta, GA 30334