

AN OPEN LETTER TO CORPORATE AMERICA

Corporate America:

<u>We need to talk.</u> Black Americans are not a monolith, and Stacey Abrams does not speak for all of us. All too often, however, corporate leaders seem to believe that bowing to the ultimatums of Abrams and other far-left activists is a substitute for meaningful engagement with our community on issues of race.

We are a coalition of Black business owners, clergy members, civil rights activists, and community leaders who believe strongly in the importance of secure elections and support the Georgia Election Integrity Act. We also care deeply for our communities, and it pains us to see our friends and neighbors suffer so that corporate leaders can pat themselves on the back and issue statements boasting about how "woke" they are.

The truth is that Black people are as diverse as any other group. Yet, when Stacey Abrams and her allies began pushing Atlanta-based corporations such as Coca-Cola and Delta Airlines to denounce the Election Integrity Act based on fabrications and falsehoods, they did so without even bothering to consult with other members of the Black community.

Major League Baseball was even more destructive. Based entirely on Abrams' lies, the MLB decided to move the All-Star Game out of Atlanta, costing a majority-Black city over \$100 million in potential business. Adding insult to injury, they moved the event to the lily-white city of Denver, Colorado.

None of this was either helpful or necessary. If these corporate leaders had taken the time to meet with any of us, we would have told them that Abrams' criticisms of the Election Integrity Act are overblown, misleading, and misinformed. Unlike Abrams, for instance, we do not believe that Black voters are uniquely incapable of proving obtaining free identification documents. Nor do we believe that Black people need special considerations and enticements to make voting as convenient as humanly possible – we fought hard to secure the right to vote, and we are more than happy to navigate basic ballot security safeguards in order to ensure that our votes are counted fairly and accurately.

We also believe in the saying, "better late than never." Corporate leaders acted as though a large segment of the Black community did not exist or matter when they listened exclusively to Stacey Abrams. Executives from Coca-Cola and Delta met with leftist leaders, but they never extended the same courtesy to us.

We invite Coke, Delta, and the MLB to redeem themselves by sitting down with us and learning about the diversity of thought that exists within our community. It's never too late for respectful, sincere dialogue.

Sincerely,