



To whom it may concern,

The Alabama Policy Institute fully supports a resolution drafted in concert with our friends at Eagle Forum designed to prohibit the scourge of Critical Race Theory in our state education system. The *Resolution Supporting Dignity and Non-Discrimination in Public Education* was prepared with expert input and analysis of the growing trend nationwide to inject the misguided concept that by their very existence our children are born either oppressor or oppressed and that nothing they can say or do will change that.

Critical Race Theory is a conceptual framework designed to diminish the value of the individual person and their inherent self-worth. CRT teaches that the founding principles of this great state and nation are racist from their conception and that systemic racism exists as a matter of overarching fact, and not as the exception. Our children are precious – they are our greatest resource as a state. We should instill hope and confidence at every turn so that they may be empowered to overcome and succeed in life. CRT disempowers every person it touches by basing their existence in predetermined disadvantage and setting one individual against another.

To be sure Alabama has had its issues with racial injustice. That is a part of our history. But our history is also replete with a legacy of value, success, achievement and the very roots of the civil rights movement. No state has come further than Alabama. To allow activist dogma to now enter into the classrooms of our children and tell them they have no real hope because they are oppressed as a birthright – or that they are an oppressor by virtue of their skin color – is antithetical to the harmony and social equity that the laws of this state have been amended to protect.

I urge the members of the Alabama State School Board to sign the resolution and to send the message that education in Alabama shall not be co-opted by any message of hate or despair. This is the right thing to do for our state and our children. Thank you in advance for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Phil Williams
Chief Policy Officer & General Counsel
The Alabama Policy Institute