

February 12, 2024

Via Email: john.lahood@house.ga.gov

The Honorable John LaHood
175th District
Chairman, Governmental Affairs
Georgia House of Representatives
131-A State Capitol
Atlanta, GA 30334

Dear Chairman Hood,

The SPLC Action Fund strongly supports [House Bill 794](#)—a bill to repeal the requirement that Stone Mountain honor the Confederacy. The Confederate memorial at Stone Mountain is a shrine to slavery and those who fought to maintain it.


Before and during the Civil War, Confederate leaders stated explicitly and constantly that they fought for slavery and white supremacy. After the war, they attempted to erase the history of slavery and the struggle for liberation. The United Daughters of the Confederacy led an organized propaganda campaign to glorify the Confederate cause and maintain white supremacy. One of their projects was Stone Mountain.

The Confederate memorial in the park celebrates those who fought against the United States over those who fought for freedom. Georgia taxpayers are required to fund this memorial to men who declared war against the United States. House Bill 794 would repeal a law from 1958 that requires Stone Mountain to honor these traitors and allow Stone Mountain to become a park for outdoor recreation that all Georgians can be proud of.

Stone Mountain has long been a symbol of hate and a gathering space for white supremacists, since the second Ku Klux Klan formed there in 1915. The SPLC Action Fund supports HB 794 to reclaim Stone Mountain as an inclusive public space for all people.

We call on Chairman LaHood to hold a hearing on HB 794 at the next regularly scheduled meeting of the House Governmental Affairs Committee.

Best Regards



Isabel Otero



The Honorable John LaHood

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