November 13, 2019

Hon. Christopher England, Chair
Hon. Patricia Todd, First Vice Chair
Alabama Democratic Party
P.O. Box 950
Montgomery, AL 36101

Dear Chair England and Vice Chair Todd:

Congratulations on your election as Chair and First Vice Chair of the Alabama Democratic Party. Your Party has made history by electing its first African American Chair and openly LGBTQ+ Vice Chair.

I am writing to confirm that on November, 4, 2019, your election was officially certified by the Democratic National Committee ("DNC") and that, in addition to being recognized by the DNC as the Chair and First Vice Chair of the Alabama Democratic Party, you are now recognized as members of the Democratic National Committee. I am also writing to confirm that the DNC recognizes each action taken by the State Democratic Executive Committee ("SDEC") of the Alabama Democratic Party at its November 2, 2019, meeting, including its cancellation of the November 16, 2019, meeting called by the previous Party Chair. Because the SDEC has cancelled that meeting, the DNC will not consider any action taken at that meeting to be an action taken by the Alabama Democratic Party.

As you know, the DNC recognizes the validity of the SDEC’s actions at its October 5, 2019, meeting, at which the SDEC adopted new Bylaws to ensure full participation in party affairs for all Democrats in Alabama. These Bylaws were pre-approved by the DNC’s Rules and Bylaws Committee ("RBC") prior to their adoption by the SDEC as being consistent with the DNC’s Charter and Bylaws. During that meeting, the SDEC noticed a second meeting for November 2, 2019, to organize Diversity Caucuses to nominate At-Large members to the SDEC and the Executive Board, fill existing district-level vacancies, elect the diversity nominees to the SDEC and Executive Board, and conduct elections for Chair and First Vice Chair.

At the November 2 meeting, the Diversity Caucuses met and nominated additional At-Large members from key constituency groups. These Diversity Caucuses represent youth, Hispanic, LGBTQ+, Native American, and Asian American & Pacific Islander members. I was excited to see the unprecedented interest in the At-Large SDEC positions by Democrats who had not been able fully to participate in official Party business before this point.
At its meeting on November 2, the SDEC took several actions, including the cancellation of the meeting called by the previous Chair for November 16, 2019; filling vacancies; electing At-Large diversity members to the SDEC and Executive Board; terminating the terms of Chairwoman Nancy Worley and First Vice Chair Randy Kelley, effective immediately; and electing a new Chair and First Vice Chair. All actions were in accordance with the Bylaws approved by the RBC and adopted by the SDEC on October 5 and are therefore recognized by the DNC.

I am pleased that the Alabama Party has made significant improvements in the State Party Bylaws to ensure the Party is open, transparent, and welcoming of the participation of members from diverse groups. I am particularly pleased to note that the new members of the SDEC elected on November 2nd were overwhelmingly young, African-American, and representative of Alabama’s great diversity, ensuring that the key constituencies that are the backbone of our Party are reflected in the membership of the SDEC.

Under your vision and leadership, I know that Alabama Democrats are on a path to rebuild the infrastructure needed to engage and mobilize voters and win at every level as we approach critical elections.

I look forward to working with you.

Sincerely,

Thomas E. Perez
Chair