

Subject: Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc. Opposes President Donald Trump's Executive Order to Dismantle the U.S. Department of Education

On behalf of the more than 130,000 members of Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Incorporated, I write to express our unequivocal opposition to President Donald Trump's plan to sign an Executive Order, which aims to dismantle the U.S. Department of Education.

Founded on the principles of Scholarship, Service, Sisterhood, and Finer Womanhood, with Scholarship at its core, Zeta Phi Beta has remained dedicated to advancing education and intellectual empowerment for over a century. We firmly believe that access to quality education is a fundamental right, not a privilege. The dissolution of the U.S. Department of Education would be a direct attack on this ideal, disproportionately harming historically marginalized communities, students with disabilities, first-generation college students, and underfunded school districts. It would also unravel decades of progress toward educational equity, jeopardizing critical protections and resources that ensure opportunities for all students.

We are deeply concerned by this unprecedented act— an act that no other modern president has attempted to execute— to shut down a federal government agency. We are also incredibly alarmed by the recent announcement of the cutting of half of the agency's workforce as a step toward the aim to dismantle it. The U.S. Department of Education was established by an act of Congress in 1979, reflecting a national commitment to ensuring equitable access to education. Dismantling the department not only threatens public education but also sets a dangerous precedent for the disregard of congressional authority and the fundamental role of government in supporting educational opportunity.

Mobilizing for Impact

We believe this effort cannot stop at a single letter. We are mobilizing our membership, communities, and partners to take strategic and sustained action, including:

1. Legislative Advocacy – Zeta Phi Beta will engage with congressional leaders to oppose any legislative efforts aimed at dismantling the Department of Education.
2. Community Engagement – Through our national network of chapters, we will host educational forums, voter education initiatives, and advocacy workshops to empower communities with the knowledge and tools to fight back against policies that threaten public education.
3. Coalition Building – We will collaborate with educators, advocacy groups, HBCUs, and policymakers to ensure that this issue remains at the forefront of national discourse.
4. Voter Mobilization – Recognizing the power of the ballot, we will activate our GET ENGAGED™ initiative to ensure that voters are informed and mobilized to elect leaders who prioritize education.

Ensuring equitable access to education is not a partisan issue—it is a national priority. We urge all stakeholders, policymakers, and community leaders to unite in opposing this reckless

executive order and stand firm in protecting the integrity of our nation's education system. Now is the time to take action—contact your representatives, participate in town halls, and use your voice to ensure that education remains a national priority.

The future of our children, our schools, and our communities depends on the actions we take today. Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc. will not stand idly by as decades of progress in education are threatened. The choices we make now will shape generations to come. That is why we stand firm in defending access to quality education—because protecting education is an investment in our collective future.

As an organization deeply rooted in Scholarship, we remain resolute in our mission to advance educational equity and opportunity for all.

We welcome further dialogue and partnership on this urgent matter. Please feel free to email us getengaged@zphib.org with questions.

In Service,

Dr. Stacie NC Grant
International President & CEO
Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Incorporated