

An Open Letter to Leading U.S. Companies Asking Them To Cease Their Contributions Supporting Lawmakers Passing Abortion Bans

August 21, 2019

You are receiving this letter because you are the CEO of a corporation that made contributions that ultimately supported politicians who pushed an oppressive state law banning abortion.

We understand that at the time you made your donation, you may not have anticipated that your contributions would support such a massive government overreach. However, knowing now that elevating these elected officials to positions of power resulted in states passing extreme laws that take away women's rights, we encourage you to publicly denounce these donations and dedicate your attention to empowering women instead of robbing them of their rights.

We are calling on you to cease any further contributions in support of the politicians behind the oppressive abortion bans sweeping the country and to instead make comparable donations to organizations supporting women's rights.

In recent months, state governments nationwide passed and signed into law an onslaught of extreme, oppressive abortion bans that are not only a government overreach, but will also imperil women's right to comprehensive health care. We are writing to inform you about the disastrous legislation your contributions helped support:

- **Alabama** – Alabama [passed into law](#) the most restrictive abortion ban in the country.
- **Missouri** – Missouri [passed a bill](#) banning abortion at a time when many women don't even know they're pregnant.
- **Louisiana** – Louisiana [passed a law](#) banning abortion at a time when many women don't even know they're pregnant.
- **Georgia** – Georgia [passed a law](#) that bans abortion before many women even know they're pregnant and could trigger criminal charges for people involved.

Supporting overreaching politicians like those who passed these abortion bans in the future will only continue to bring controversy to your company's doorstep. In fact, it will send a clear message to your employees, shareholders, consumers and community that you do not support the fundamental right to access reproductive health care. You claim to support women's equality and inclusion, but your donations tell a very different story. We urge you to consider your future donations wisely.

DefundTheBans.org lays out your contributions over the past two years to the politicians and party committee who pushed these bans. The American people are not with you on this issue. [Polling shows](#) that Americans overwhelmingly oppose these recent extreme abortion restrictions.

At a time when people have lost faith in government institutions, they are expecting more and more out of the companies they support with their hard-earned dollars. [Consumers](#) — and your employees — expect corporate CEOs to “take the lead on change.” Americans [choose to support companies](#) that take a stand on the issues that matter to them. According to a [recent poll](#), most people oppose these laws due to their extreme government overreach and how they take away women’s rights. People are following these actions closely, and they don’t like what they see.

We ask that you take up this call on behalf of your company and help defund the bans.

Respectfully,
Michelle Kuppersmith, director of Equity Forward