



State Auditor of Alabama

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Chancellor Jack Hawkins
Troy University
216 Adams Administration Building
Troy, Alabama 36082

Dear Dr. Hawkins:

I am pleased to be writing to you today in proud support of the effective leadership of one of Troy University's young professors.

Dr. Allen Mendenhall, your Associate Dean and Grady Rosier Professor in the Sorrell College of Business, has come under criticism for the work in his private capacity to defend and support economic freedom in the state of Alabama.

As you know, Alabama's economic growth over the past several decades has been driven by global industry investment - and future growth depends on maintaining & improving our edge over our neighboring states.

Dr. Mendenhall has earned national recognition and accolades for his work in this field and is a true credit to the prestige and influence Troy University has built during your tenure as Chancellor.

I am writing specifically to support Dr. Mendenhall's recent testimony to the Alabama Republican Caucus offering concerns regarding ESG investing and its potential harm to the state. As Alabama's State Auditor, I share Dr. Mendenhall's concerns.

Many of Alabama's peer states have taken recent actions with respect to ESG investing, and I am concerned that failure to act would put our state at an economic disadvantage and could negatively impact our state pension system, as an example.

Dr. Mendenhall is both right on the policy and principle of a matter of importance to our state. Criticism of him may come - as it often happens when people stand for what's right.

Thank you for all you have done in leading Troy University to what it has become - a national center of academic excellence, and for supporting your staff and faculty in their personal and professional endeavors.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "J. Andrew Sorrell".

Andrew Sorrell
State Auditor