

LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE ON CIVIL RIGHTS  
2027 MASS. AVE., WASHINGTON D.C.

STATEMENT OPPOSING CONFIRMATION OF GOVERNOR J.P. COLEMAN  
TO THE UNITED STATES FIFTH CIRCUIT COURT OF APPEAL

We, the undersigned organizations, wish to express our strong opposition to the appointment of former Governor J.P. Coleman of Mississippi to the United States Fifth Circuit Court of Appeal. It is incomprehensible that this man who was one of the architects of most of Mississippi's white supremacist political and legal structure should be rewarded for his actions by this appointment. We urge the Senate Judiciary Committee, and the Senate, as a whole, overwhelmingly to reject this appointment.

If Governor Coleman is confirmed as a judge of the Fifth Circuit he will be in a position to pass upon appeals from cases under the 1964 and 1965 Civil Rights Acts. This appointment may well be even worse than that of Judge Cox. We point out that Governor Coleman, under the new Voting Rights bill, will be directly hearing appeals from federal examiners seeking to remedy the evil effects of voting discrimination laws and practices that Governor Coleman himself largely designed, drafted and implemented. We urge President Johnson to withdraw this nomination.

- Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority
- American Newspaper Guild
- American Veterans Committee
- Americans for Democratic Action
- Catholic Interracial Council
- Christian Methodist Episcopal Church
- College YCS National Staff
- Congress of Racial Equality
- Council for Christian Social Action
- United Church of Christ
- Delta Sigma Theta Sorority
- Episcopal Society for Cultural and Social Unity
- Improved Benevolent & Protective Order of Elks of the World
- Iota Phi Lambda, Inc.
- National Alliance of Postal Employees
- National Association of Negro Business and Professional Women's Clubs, Inc.
- National Catholic Conference for Interracial Justice
- National Council of Churches--Comm. on Religion and Race
- National Council of Negro Women
- Northern Student Movement
- Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity
- SCLC
- State, County, Municipal Employees
- SNCC
- Transport workers Union of America
- Union of American Hebrew Congregations
- U.S. National Student Association
- Women's International League for Peace and Freedom
- Workers Defense League
- A. Philip Randolph Foundation
- Mississippi Freedom Democratic Party
- National Consumers League

Handwritten signatures and notes at the bottom of the page.