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For Immediate Release

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**MOBILE COUNTY DEMOCRATIC PARTY OPPOSES
CITY OF MOBILE ANNEXATION PROPOSAL AND PROCESS**

Council Must Reject Effort to Undermine Fair Representation

Mobile, Ala. – The Mobile County Democratic Executive Committee opposes the City of Mobile’s current annexation proposal and process. The Committee has grave concerns over the undermining of fair representation for all of Mobile’s citizens.

The Committee is mindful of the historic use of discriminatory redistricting and annexations to undermine the political power of Black communities in Alabama, and notes the likelihood that the recently drawn fourth Black council district will never be realized if the proposed annexation occurs.

After the 2020 Census demonstrated that the Black community of Mobile was underrepresented in city government, the City was forced to redraw the council districts in order to provide the Black community the ability to elect a candidate of its choosing in a fourth district. That map, which will not be used until the 2025 election cycle, has not been in place even a year and there is already an effort to take it away.

The Council should take into account the rates at which communities vote in addition to Voting Age Population because of the number of citizens disenfranchised as a result of a discriminatory criminal justice system and apathy caused by the decades of being ignored and neglected by city government.

The Committee urges Council Members to consider the short and long term implications of their vote on the citizens they represent.

RESOLUTION

March 23, 2023

The Mobile County Democratic Executive Committee is deeply concerned about the City of Mobile's current annexation proposal and process. We oppose the annexation proposal released by the Mayor's office, because we have grave concerns over the undermining of fair representation for all of Mobile's citizens.

The historic use of discriminatory redistricting and annexations to undermine the political power of Black communities in Alabama is well known. The current proposal creates the likelihood that the recently drawn fourth Black council district will never be realized if the proposed annexation occurs.

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The committee urges Council Members to consider the short and long term implications of their vote on the citizens they represent.