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Vice President of Mobile Alabama NAACP  
President of Stand Up Mobile  
Answer to Questions for the Record  
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#### QUESTIONS FROM SENATOR BOOKER

*1. In your testimony, you noted that high rates of poverty and lack of access to transportation among Black Alabamians are factors that make it harder for them to navigate the absentee ballot process. In your opinion, how do these types of socioeconomic disparities intersect with and exacerbate the impact of discriminatory voting laws?*

Alabama's multi step process to vote by absentee ballot is very complicated. To utilize this option of voting the voter needs to have access to broadband internet, printing, copying, and transportation to deliver their ballot or to vote in person at their county probate court. Those citizens who are affected the most from these socioeconomic disparities are those who are low income and black. Those of African American descent in the state of Alabama are faced with a higher rate of poverty. Citizens who inhabit the rural counties of the state are faced with poverty at an even higher rate. Living in poverty results in the citizen not having access to print out the absentee request form or provide a copy of their ID in order to receive a ballot. These strenuous requirements along with the closing of DMVs in the rural area and a decrease in polling precincts negatively impact Black Alabamians ability to exercise their right to vote. One solution to this problem would be the ability to participate in early voting and same day voter registration. Early voting would eliminate the need to vote absentee because there would be no need to provide an excuse on why the individual is voting early. It would provide easier access to the ballot across multiple days and would allow for the opportunity to acquire transportation to be increased. Better access to the ballot box would greatly improve and increase voter turnout in the state of Alabama. The passage of the John Lewis Voting Rights Advancement Act would significantly increase Black Alabamians access to the ballot box.

*2. What message do you think Alabama's repeated efforts to limit Black political power send to young people and future generations? How do you hope to see the landscape change through your work with Stand Up Mobile and other voting rights advocates?*

Many young people in the State of Alabama and across the nation are not completely aware of the voter suppression tactics that are strategically currently in place. The message that is being sent to those who are aware is that elected officials from a particular political party will do everything in their power to limit the political voting power of Black Alabamians. It's a reminder

of how impactful our vote has been and continuous to be and a motivator to continue fighting for fair and equitable voting rights. Through my work with Stand Up Mobile and the NAACP I aim to educate the local communities about the voter suppression that is currently ongoing along with inspire them to get involved in the process and lend their voices to the cause. In the future I hope to see elected officials actually taking into consideration what their constituents are expressing. It's a goal to see Alabama catch up with the rest of America when it comes to access to the polls by allowing early voting and same day registration.