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July 6, 2020

Governor Bill Lee
1st Floor, State Capitol
Nashville TN 37243

Dear Governor Lee,

I recently saw a press report that you have called a meeting of the State Capitol Commission for July 8, 2020. I have high hopes this means that you have taken the lead on the removal of the bust of Nathan Bedford Forrest.

As you may recall, I wrote to you on January 4, 2019 and February 22, 2019 urging you remove the bust. I have enclosed a copy of the letters that I have sent you in the past for your records.

I hope that you will also take the lead in renaming the Nathan Bedford Forest State Park in Eva, TN which is equally as distasteful and inappropriate.

As I wrote to you in January 2019, you can demonstrate leadership on an issue that causes so much pain in the Black community in Tennessee. I hope you will seize this moment and make the country look at Tennessee as a progressive and forward moving state.

As always, I remain,
Most sincerely,



Steve Cohen
Member of Congress