



Office of the President

May 19, 2026

**Official Statement from the South Central Conference of Seventh-day Adventists
On Voting Rights, Human Dignity, and Democratic Participation**

The South Central Conference of Seventh-day Adventists has long stood on the side of justice, equality, and the God-given dignity of every human being. Rooted in a rich legacy shaped by the struggle for civil rights and equal opportunity, we recognize that the right to vote remains one of the most sacred and powerful expressions of freedom and citizenship in a democratic society.

Recent legal decisions and ongoing efforts affecting voting rights, redistricting, and representation across our nation—particularly throughout the South—have raised deep concern among many within our conference territory. We are especially mindful of the implications these developments may have for historically marginalized communities, including African Americans, Haitians, Latinos, and others whose voices have too often been silenced, minimized, or overlooked.

The South Central Conference encompasses Alabama, Kentucky, Mississippi, Tennessee, and the portion of Florida lying west of the Apalachicola River, regions deeply connected to the historic struggle for voting rights in America. Many of our members carry personal and generational memories of sacrifice, courage, and perseverance in the fight to secure equal access to the ballot box. We therefore cannot remain indifferent when measures emerge that may weaken protections designed to ensure fair representation and equal participation in the electoral process.

As followers of Jesus Christ, we affirm that every person is created in the image of God and possesses inherent worth and dignity. The principles of justice, fairness, and equal treatment under the law are consistent with both democratic ideals and biblical values. We believe that free and fair elections, accessible voting processes, and equitable representation are essential to a healthy and just society.

While the Church does not endorse political parties or candidates, we uphold moral principles that protect human dignity and encourage civic responsibility. We encourage all eligible citizens to remain informed, engaged, and committed to participating peacefully and responsibly in the democratic process.

The South Central Conference Administration remains committed to advocating for the rights, dignity, and equal worth of all people. We will continue to support efforts that protect every individual's ability to have their voice heard, their vote counted, and their humanity respected.

In times of challenge and uncertainty, we call upon our members and communities to stand united in faith, justice, compassion, and hope, as we continue working toward a society that reflects the biblical principles of equity, freedom, and love for all humanity.

The South Central Conference Administration