

# **PETITION TO REINSTATE FULL REPRESENTATION ON THE HOWARD UNIVERSITY BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

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On June 23, 2021, during a virtual town hall addressed to Howard University alumni, faculty, and students, the Chair of the Howard University Board of Trustees made the astonishing announcement that the Board had voted to eliminate all “Affiliate Trustee” positions from Board membership. **This means that alumni, faculty, and students will no longer be able to vote for Alumni Trustees, Faculty Trustees, or Student Trustees. Voter suppression is now a reality on the Board at Howard University.**

This Board decision was made based on a report from a consulting firm which allegedly interviewed a mere 40+ stakeholders. More importantly, **the decision was made without transparency – most alumni, faculty, and students, including their leadership, were not even informed that this issue was under consideration by the Board.**

**The Board’s decision to eliminate the Affiliate Trustee positions reverses Howard’s rich history of shared governance dating back 97 years.** In 1923 the Board of Trustees first provided a procedure for the alumni to participate in selecting a Trustee, and in 1924, the Board voted to provide for three Alumni Trustees. In 1970, the Board voted to add Student and Faculty Trustees to its membership. **The Board’s current bylaws and other University governance documents provide for three Alumni Trustees, two Faculty Trustees, and two Student Trustees on the Board, each nominated by their respective constituencies.**

This Board decision does not rise to the standards of excellence, leadership, service, and truth that have been instilled in countless Howard generations. **This decision is an act of disenfranchisement, lacks moral integrity, and must be reversed.**

**Please join Howard Alumni United in opposing this action and demanding that the Board reverse its decision by immediately reinstating all the Affiliate Trustee positions.**

**Sign our petition by clicking on the link. Please also share this information to your network of Howardites and request that they sign the petition.**

## **STAND WITH US! UNITED WE CAN RESTORE OUR VOICES TO THE BOARD.**