

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR



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STATE OF ALABAMA

Gretchen DiFante
City Manager
Pelham, Alabama
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Mrs. DiFante,

Please pass along my gratitude to the newly formed Alabama Chapter of the Women Leading Government for the invitation to attend your inaugural conference. While my schedule prevents me from attending personally, I wanted to share my thoughts and offer encouragement to WLGM members through a letter I hope you will share on my behalf at the conference.

This is a great time for Alabama. We've come a long way, and it's important we remember and learn from our past as we celebrate our 200th year of statehood. Alabama has been at the center of historically significant events that have not always represented what was right. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. taught us to confront struggles with honesty, courage and love. We must take these fundamental truths with us as we forge ahead.

Many of you did not plan for a career in local government. In fact, like me, your path was not predetermined or even perhaps likely. For me, growing up in Camden, little girls didn't dream of being governor one day. But here I sit today, having the privilege of serving this great state as your governor, determined to exemplify the truths spoken by Dr. King.

It is critically important to have good people who are willing — and able — to serve at all levels of government. In improving and gathering strength as individuals and as a collective group, your local communities as well as the state will benefit greatly. My administration is totally committed to working with you — and others — who share our goal of building a better state.

Thank you for your commitment to serve. With highest regards,

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kay Ivey".

Governor Kay Ivey