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Representative LaVon Bracy Davis Responds to Governor DeSantis' State of the State Address

TALLAHASSEE, Fla. – In response to Governor DeSantis' State of the State Address, **Representative LaVon Bracy Davis (D-Ocoee)** issued the following statement.

“I find Governor DeSantis' State of the State address to be a disheartening reflection of misplaced priorities and unrealistic goals. It appears that the Governor is using this platform as an opportunity to inflate his dwindling presidential campaign, rather than addressing the real issues facing Floridians. The moniker of 'America's Governor' seems more like a political stunt than a title earned by genuine public service.

“Governor DeSantis' reference to the 'Free State of Florida' is ironic, given the current economic climate where many Floridians are struggling to afford basic living costs in this so-called free state. This contradiction highlights a disconnect between the Governor's rhetoric and the reality of our citizens' lives.

“Moreover, the Governor's focus on national issues in his opening remarks signals a concerning lack of interest and focus on Floridian affairs. His job should first and foremost be about addressing the needs and challenges of the people of Florida.

“It's contradictory that while he boasts about adding jobs to Florida, Governor DeSantis is actively engaging in a confrontational stance with Disney, one of the state's largest employers. This approach is not only counterproductive but also indicative of a leadership style that prioritizes political battles over economic stability and job security for Floridians.

“The Governor's insistence on 'staying the course' seems out of touch with the reality of what is happening in our state. A leader's course should be guided by the needs and welfare of their people, not by rigid ideology or political ambitions.

“Lastly, Governor DeSantis' mischaracterization of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion as Discrimination, Execution, and Indoctrination is deeply troubling. It reveals a lack of

understanding and appreciation for the rich tapestry of cultures, backgrounds, and perspectives that make Florida unique. As Floridians, we deserve a society that embraces diversity, strives for equity, and ensures inclusion for all its members. Dismissing these values not only undermines our community's harmony but also hinders our collective progress as a state.

“In conclusion, the State of the State address, rather than offering a realistic and constructive vision for Florida, seems to be a platform for political posturing and ideological rhetoric. As Floridians, we need and deserve better.”

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