



PRESS RELEASE

LOUISIANA TREASURER JOHN FLEMING, MD

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TREASURER FLEMING APPLAUDS PRESIDENT TRUMP

Baton Rouge, LA: Yesterday, in an address to the World Economic Forum in Davos, Switzerland, President Donald Trump criticized Bank of America for not taking “conservative business.” He implored the CEO of Bank of America, Brian Moynihan, to “start opening your bank to conservatives because many conservatives complain.” President Trump believes that what Bank of America and many other financial institutions are “doing” is “wrong.”

In response, Louisiana State Treasurer John Fleming, M.D., praised President Trump for his bold and truthful remarks. He said, “It is refreshing to hear the President articulate what has been said by many business owners and political leaders throughout the country regarding Bank of America and other financial institutions.”

In August, Dr. Fleming recommended that Bank of America not be approved as an authorized fiscal agent in the State of Louisiana based on LRS 49:317 and 320. The decision was made because of the evidence that Bank of America is deliberately denying banking services to customers and potential customers (de-banking) of religious organizations, gun manufacturers, fossil fuel producers, and others based simply on their political perspectives and activities, not because of any bank policy or law violations.

After making the decision, Dr. Fleming was criticized by some left-wing commentators for engaging in “cheap political theater.” In contrast, the bank’s record of discrimination is evident. According to the State Financial Officers Foundation (SFOF), Bank of America ranked **very low** on the Viewpoint Diversity Score Business Index, which rates corporate support for free speech and freedom of religion.

The index uncovered that Bank of America supports the gift-matching programs of progressive organizations like the Human Rights Campaign and the Center for American Progress but provides little support for faith-based organizations. According to SFOF, this behavior exposes their “pattern of internal political and religious bias.”

Thank you, President Trump, for validating our tough but necessary decision in Louisiana several months ago. With this type of public pressure, I hope that Bank of America will end any discrimination based on political viewpoints,” said Dr. Fleming.

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