

John P. Holt, Jr., M.D.

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Dr. Steven Ballard,
Chancellor
East Carolina University
105 Spilman Building
Greenville, NC 27858

Dear Chancellor Ballard,

I am a 1986 graduate of the Brody School of Medicine. I presently serve on the ECU Medical Foundation Board and the Advancement Council Board of the Brody School of Medicine. I have supported the medical school with the establishment of a scholarship and am a proud supporter and advocate for ECU as a diverse and progressive institution of higher learning.

I am writing to express my fervent support for renaming the dormitory named after North Carolina Governor, Charles B. Aycock. By all accounts, Governor Aycock was an obstructionist, separatist, a very vocal proponent of racism, and one who definitely was not supportive of educating a diverse population.

Exalting the name of an individual, on a university campus, whose inapposite views regarding promoting/allowing the education and respect of all students regardless of their ethnic or cultural backgrounds will likely undo many of the University's efforts to attract and maintain a more diverse student body. To support the representation of a man who stood against the mores that ECU now purports to promote—exposure to and interaction with individuals of differing cultural, ethnic and geographic backgrounds--sends a hypocritical message to ECU's current students.

In light of the foregoing, I adamantly oppose maintaining the name of Charles B. Aycock anywhere on the campus of my alma mater, East Carolina University.

Very truly yours,

/s/John P. Holt, Jr., M.D.

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