

# Association of Biomolecular Resource Facilities

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## **ABRF Statement on Supreme Court Decision on Race in College Admissions**

August 2023 (Lexington, KY) - On June 29, 2023, the Supreme Court struck down affirmative action programs, effectively ending the consideration of race in college admissions. **ABRF** (the Association of Biomolecular Resource Facilities) disagrees with the Supreme Court's decision not only because of its impact on black, brown, and indigenous students who seek opportunities at elite universities, but also because of the ripple effect this decision will have in the way diversity, equity and accessibility are understood in a country that still grapples with a history and a present challenge of racial injustice.

Affirmative Action policies relied on forty years of legal precedent and played a crucial role in promoting equity on campuses as well as in society. Originally, affirmative action policies were not about the practice of using race as a factor in college

Moreover, according to the Chronicle of Higher Education, 22 states have introduced 40 bills designed to “prohibit colleges from having diversity, equity, and inclusion offices or staff; ban mandatory diversity training; prohibit institutions from using diversity statements in hiring and promotion, or prohibit colleges from using race, sex, color, ethnicity, or national origin in admissions or employment.” The Supreme Court’s decision on affirmative action has the potential to open the door to other forms of discriminatory laws by setting a precedent for future legal challenges.

As an organization committed to advancing education and scientific excellence within a collaborative and inclusive community, ABRF reaffirms its commitment to building equitable access by committing to diversity, and by partnering with organizations to promote projects that will have a measurable impact on increasing historically excluded populations’ presence in shared resource facilities. For example, ABRF is working with community colleges and the National Science Fo (he p)10 (ot)2 (ed004 Tc -0.4)10 ( )35<2 (in)-6 (g)]T MBelabornity, ABeges