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NEWS

Alabama Democrats call on GOP lawmaker to resign over Confederate support

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An arch greets visitors to the park off U.S. 31 in Chilton County, near Clanton.



By Paul Gattis | pgattis@al.com

Alabama Democrats have called for the resignation of state Rep. Will Dismukes, R-Prattville, over his “public support of the lost Confederate cause,” the party said in a press release Friday.

Dismukes, who said he won’t resign, has recently spoken in support of continuing state funding for the Confederate Memorial Park in Marbury, about 28 miles north of Montgomery.

The halls are decked

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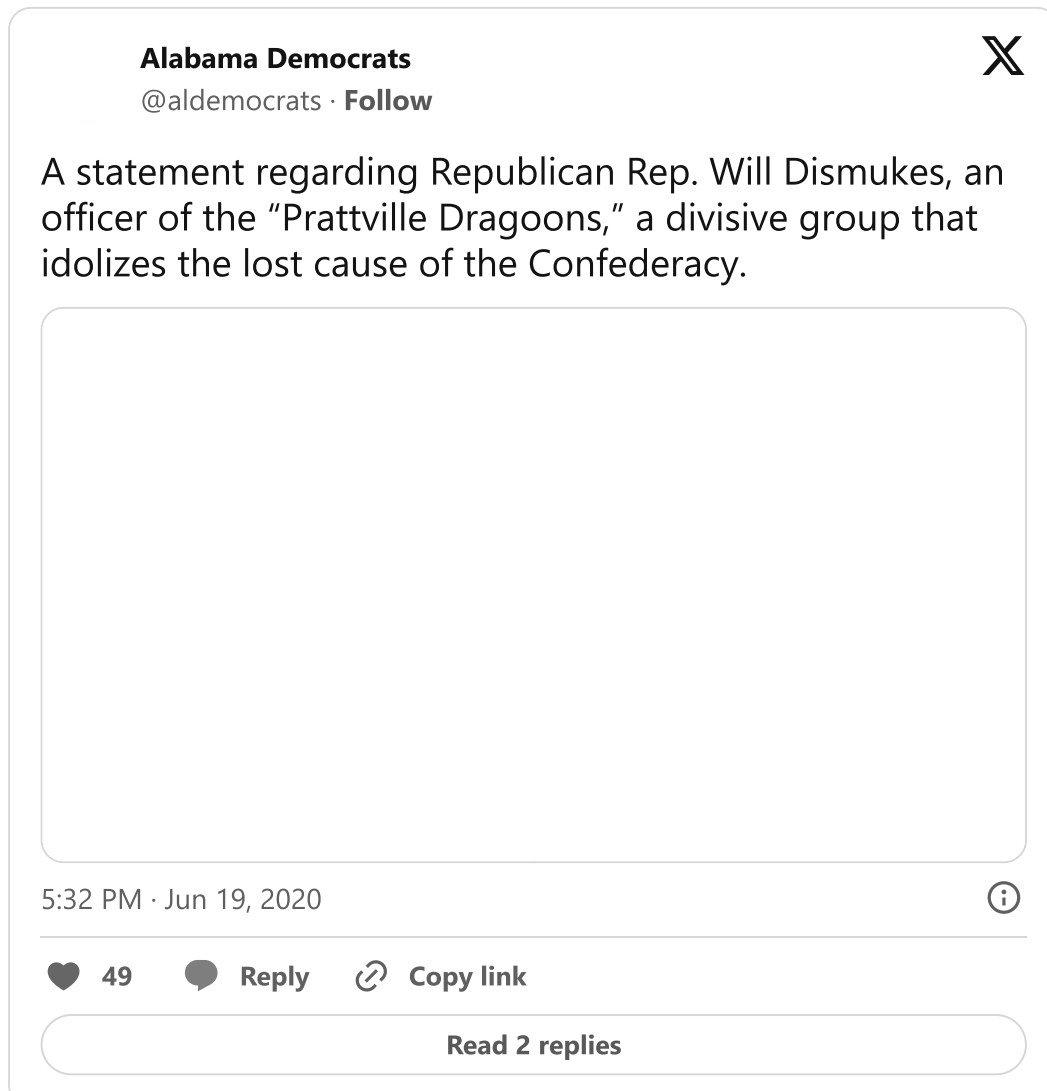
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Dismukes' support for the Confederate park comes at a time when Confederate monuments are targets of protesters across the nation in the aftermath of the death of George Floyd, who was in custody of Minneapolis police when an officer pinned him to the ground with a knee on his neck. Floyd told officers he couldn't breathe.

The officer, Derek Chauvin, has been charged with second-degree murder and three other officers at the scene have also been charged in the case.

The Democratic Party, in its statement, took issue with a social media post by Dismukes – wearing a Boy Scout-type shirt – celebrating Confederate Flag Day.

“We need elected officials who work for a better tomorrow for all Alabamians,” said Wade Perry, executive director of Alabama Democratic Party. “That should go without saying. If little Will wants to play dress-up and pretend to fight for the lost cause, he should resign. His job is to pass laws that help Alabamians, not honor folks who fought to preserve the institution of slavery.”



Dismukes, who is chaplain of the Prattville Dragoons – a chapter of the Sons of Confederate Veterans, said in a Facebook post on Friday night that he will not be resigning.

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“No worries I’m not resigning because the Democratic Chairman requested my resignation,” Dismukes said in the Facebook post. “I also will not be apologizing over a picture in front of the flags nor being chaplain of my local SCV camp which is listed as a heritage group by the SPLC.

“We have enough people caving to the communist left. For the love of life it’s time for people to stop being so sensitive and apologetic and take a stand before our country is Gone with the Wind. This is way bigger than history and monuments.”

Dismukes is in his first term in the state Legislature. He ran for the Republican nomination for the seat in Alabama’s 2nd Congressional District last year before dropping out of the race in October.

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