



114TH CONGRESS

FIRST SESSION

YEAR IN REVIEW

“Fighting for an America that Works for us All”





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Chairman's Message

The Congressional Black Caucus (CBC) is the strongest it has been in our 45 year history. Our 46 members hail from 22 states, the District of Columbia, and the Virgin Islands, representing more than 30 million people. The CBC makes up 23% of the House Democratic Caucus and 10% of the House of Representatives, making our Caucus one of the largest in Congress and the largest group of African-American lawmakers. Several of our members hold key leadership positions in the Democratic Caucus and seven hold the top Democratic positions on full committees.

The composition of our Caucus brings a diverse set of experiences and viewpoints to tackle the unique challenges of African American communities. While we each have our own priorities, we maintain our dedication to upholding our reputation as the “Conscience of the Congress.” We speak with a singular, powerful voice in our fight to deliver on the expectations of Americans—to have a government that works for us all.

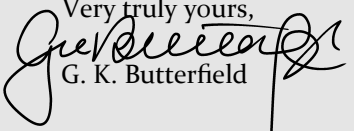
The First Session of the 114th Congress has been an incredible year for the CBC. Our members have worked tirelessly on a number of issues facing the African American community. We are committed to criminal justice reform, enhancing educational opportunities for African American students and strengthening our HBCUs, increasing African American inclusion at all levels of the technology industry and restoring Section 5 of the Voting Rights Act to ensure all citizens are able to fully participate in our democracy. Our caucus is strong and we have been engaged and vocal in carrying out these priorities this past legislative session.

We have seen results, yet we understand that much work still remains as we enter the second session of the 114th Congress. This year, the CBC will continue to focus our efforts on criminal justice reform, police violence, poverty, education, and ending the stigma of racism in America.

We understand that there are significant challenges and persistent inequities facing African Americans across the country – from perennially high unemployment to mass incarceration – the CBC is more committed than ever to providing leadership on these issues, so that we can make a difference in our communities and for the individuals we represent.

I am honored to serve as the 24th Chairman of the Congressional Black Caucus and I am proud of the work we continue to do on behalf of the vulnerable communities in our nation.

Thank you for supporting the Congressional Black Caucus. We look forward to an exciting legislative year and ensuring all people, regardless of color, have the tools to achieve the American Dream.

Very truly yours,

G. K. Butterfield



114TH CONGRESS

CONGRESSIONAL BLACK CAUCUS



Rep. G. K. Butterfield
Chairman



Rep. Yvette D. Clarke
First Vice Chair



Rep. André Carson
Second Vice Chair



Rep. Karen Bass
Secretary



Rep. Hakeem Jeffries
Whip

Members by Seniority

Hon. John Conyers, Jr., MI – '65

Hon. Charles B. Rangel, NY – '71

Hon. John Lewis, GA – '87

Hon. Eleanor Holmes Norton, DC – '91

Hon. Maxine Waters, CA – '91

Hon. Sanford D. Bishop, Jr., GA – '93

Hon. Corrine Brown, FL – '93

Hon. James E. Clyburn, SC – '93

Hon. Alcee L. Hastings, FL – '93

Hon. Eddie Bernice Johnson, TX – '93

Hon. Bobby L. Rush, IL – '93

Hon. Robert C. "Bobby" Scott, VA – '93

Hon. Bennie G. Thompson, MS – '93

Hon. Chaka Fattah, PA – '95

Hon. Sheila Jackson Lee, TX – '95

Hon. Elijah Cummings, MD – '96

Hon. Danny K. Davis, IL – '97

Hon. Gregory W. Meeks, NY – '98

Hon. Barbara Lee, CA – '98

Hon. William Lacy Clay, Jr., MO – '01

Hon. David Scott, GA – '03

Hon. G. K. Butterfield, NC – '04

Hon. Emanuel Cleaver II, MO – '05

Hon. Al Green, TX – '05

Hon. Gwen Moore, WI – '05

Hon. Yvette D. Clarke, NY – '07

Hon. Keith Ellison, MN – '07

Hon. Hank Johnson, GA – '07

Hon. André Carson, IN – '08

Hon. Donna F. Edwards, MD – '08

Hon. Marcia L. Fudge, OH – '08

Hon. Karen Bass, CA – '11

Hon. Cedric Richmond, LA – '11

Hon. Terri Sewell, AL – '11

Hon. Frederica Wilson, FL – '11

Hon. Donald M. Payne, Jr., NJ – '11

Hon. Joyce Beatty, OH – '13

Hon. Hakeem Jeffries, NY – '13

Hon. Marc Veasey, TX – '13

Hon. Robin Kelly, IL – '13

Hon. Cory Booker, NJ – '13

Hon. Alma Adams, NC – '14

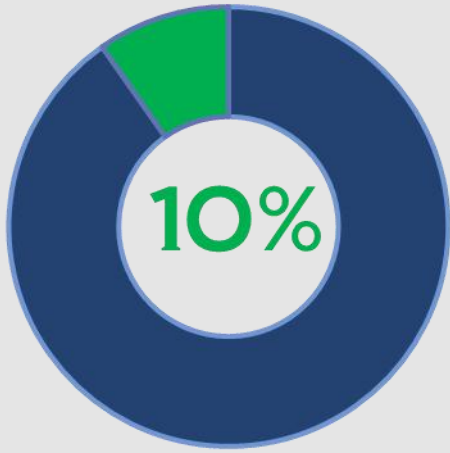
Hon. Brenda Lawrence, MI – '15

Hon. Mia Love, UT – '15

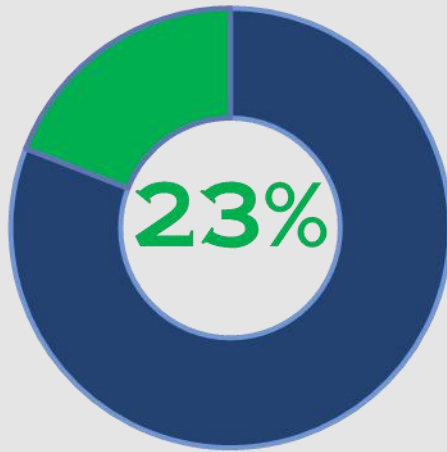
Hon. Stacey Plaskett, VI – '15

Hon. Bonnie Watson Coleman, NJ – '15





% Of entire **House Members** who belong to the Congressional Black Caucus



% Of **Democratic Caucus** who belong to the Congressional Black Caucus

20 

of **Women** in the 114th Congress Congressional Black Caucus

46

of **CBC Members** in 114th Congress

7 FULL COMMITTEE RANKING MEMBERS



Financial Services
Rep. Maxine Waters



Science, Space & Tech
Rep. Eddie Bernice Johnson



Judiciary
Rep. John Conyers



Oversight & Government Reform
Rep. Elijah Cummings



Veterans Affairs
Rep. Corrine Brown



Homeland Security
Rep. Bennie Thompson



Education & Workforce
Rep. Robert "Bobby" Scott

14

of CBC Members on Steering & Policy

25

of CBC Members who are also House Subcommittee Ranking Members

7

of CBC Members who are House Committee Ranking Members



MISSION

Since its establishment in 1971, Members of the Congressional Black Caucus have joined together to empower America's neglected citizens and to address their legislative concerns. For more than 40 years, the CBC has consistently been the voice for people of color and vulnerable communities in Congress and has been committed to utilizing the full Constitutional power, statutory authority, and financial resources of the Government of the United States of America to ensure that everyone in the United States has an opportunity to achieve their version of the American Dream.

114th CBC Legislative Priorities:

With the start of each new Congress and under the leadership of its new Chair, the Congressional Black Caucus commits to focusing on a slate of issues that guide its legislative work. During the 114th Congress, the CBC will continue advocating for changes to policies that adversely impact communities of color and CBC constituencies with a focus on jobs and justice.

I. Voting Rights Restoration

- Restoring Section 5 of the Voting Rights Act
- Ending discriminatory voting practices

II. Criminal Justice Reform

- Sentencing reform
- Promoting community centered policing
- Working to regain the trust between citizens and the police
- Reducing recidivism and increasing rehabilitation

III. Promoting Economic Growth

- Reducing poverty and safeguarding social safety net programs

IV. Creating Educational Opportunities and Promoting Educational Equity

- Ensuring programs are in place for job and career training
- Strengthening Historically Black Colleges and Universities

V. Ensuring Corporate Workforce Diversity



CBC TASKFORCES & WORKING GROUPS

- Africa Taskforce
- Budget, Appropriations, and Taxation Taskforce
- Civil Rights and Judiciary Taskforce
- Diversity Taskforce
- Economic Development and Wealth Creation Taskforce
- Education and Labor Taskforce
- Education Reform Working Group
- Energy, Environment, and Agriculture Taskforce
- Ferguson Taskforce
- Foreign Affairs and National Security Taskforce
- Haiti DR Working Group
- Healthcare Reform Implementation Working Group
- Healthcare Taskforce
- Judicial Nominations Working Group
- My Brother's Keeper Taskforce
- PLUS Loans/HBCU Working Group
- Poverty and the Economy Taskforce
- Prison Telecomm Reform Working Group
- Rapid Response Team
- Technology and Infrastructure Development
- Voter Protection and Empowerment Working Group

CBC LEGISLATIVE ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Every Student Succeeds Act

In December 2015, the conference report to reauthorize the Elementary and Secondary Education Act was passed and the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) was signed into law, replace the No Child Left Behind Act. Educational opportunity is a key priority of the Congressional Black Caucus. ESSA gives every student an equal chance to succeed. Rep. Bobby Scott, Ranking Member of the Education and the Workforce Committee stated: “The Every Student Succeeds Act brings our education system into the 21st century and will make a positive difference in the lives of our nation’s students by giving every student an equal chance to succeed.”

Export-Import Bank

The Congressional Black Caucus was unified in their effort to ensure the requisite number of signatures was reached to guarantee the success of the Fincher Discharge Petition, which forced consideration of the rule providing for consideration of the bill to reauthorize the Export-Import Bank. The Export-Import Bank helps ensure American businesses are competing on a level playing field in the global marketplace. This was a significant step forward in the process to reauthorize the Export-Import Bank which has been responsible for creating or sustaining 1.5 million private-sector jobs since 2007.

The Omnibus

Within the Omnibus, significant gains were realized for Historically Black Colleges and Universities. \$22 million was allocated for Title III, Part B for HBCUs, the largest increase in six years for Title III. Title III is a key source of funding for the nations HBCUs.

Earned Income Tax Credit

In December 2015, Congress permanently extended the Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) and the Child Tax Credit (CTC). The extension of these tax credits for working families is an important victory, and is the single largest anti-poverty achievement of the past 20 years, especially for people of color.

African Growth and Opportunity Act (AGOA)

In June 2015, Congress voted overwhelmingly to reauthorize the African Growth and Opportunity Act (AGOA), a centerpiece of relations between the United States and sub-Saharan Africa that has helped enhance trade, investment, job creation, and democratic institutions throughout Africa and is a priority of the CBC. Members of the CBC worked to guarantee that AGOA was reauthorized for ten years, which means that the United States will be able to be in partnership with African nations as they become a more integral part of the world economy with a large, youthful population that is increasingly university-educated, tech-savvy, and entrepreneurial.



CBC ALTERNATIVE BUDGET

In March 2015 the CBC Alternative Budget for Fiscal Year 2016 was introduced, which proposed a *fiscally sound and morally responsible alternative plan to reduce the federal deficit and alleviate economic hardship on America's most vulnerable communities*. The CBC Alternative Budget focused on increasing economic opportunities through robust investments in education, infrastructure, affordable housing, domestic manufacturing, small businesses, and job training. It also aimed at protecting and enhancing social safety net programs and proposed significant investments in our country to ensure no community in America is left behind.

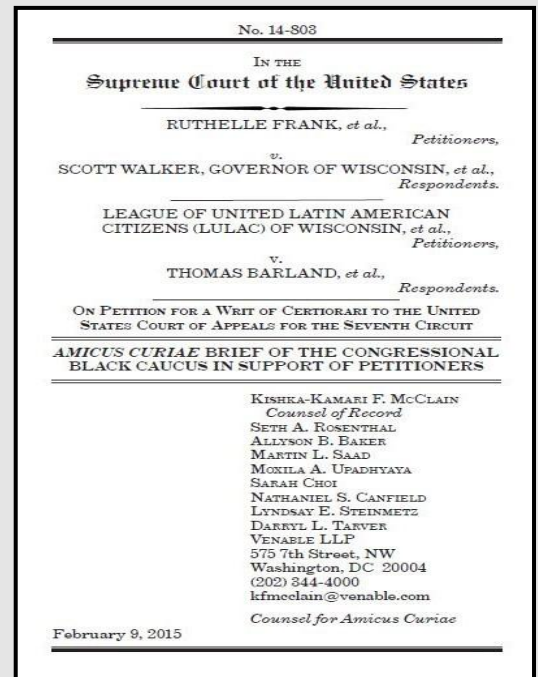


CBC POLICY HIGHLIGHTS (CONTINUED)

CBC VOTER ID AMICUS BRIEF

The Congressional Black Caucus (CBC) filed an amicus brief with the U.S. Supreme Court urging justices to hear a case brought by the Advancement Project against Wisconsin’s restrictive voter ID law.

“Photo voter ID laws significantly impact all voters but especially place burdens on African Americans, Latino Americans, young voters, seniors, women, and individuals with disabilities,” said CBC Chairman G. K. Butterfield speaking on behalf of the 46 member caucus.



THE PUSH FOR RESTORATION OF THE VOTING RIGHTS ACT

“Our vote is our voice, and no voice should be silenced. We must never surrender the voice – our voice – that was died for, prayed for, and marched for by brave Americans like our beloved Congressman John Lewis.”

— Rep. Terri Sewell (AL-07)



In the two years following the U.S. Supreme Court’s ruling to overturn Section 4 of the Voting Rights Act (VRA) in *Shelby County v. Holder*, voting rights have come under a renewed assault and we continue to see an ongoing persistence of voter discrimination and disenfranchisement in states across our country. Fifty years since the passage of the VRA, it remains clear that the struggle for the right to vote is not over. It is more imperative now than ever that Congress pass a comprehensive legislative proposal that restores the Voting Rights Act and improves our nation’s voting system in a way that guarantees access to the ballot box and protects the fundamental right to vote for every American once and for all.





POLICY BRIEFINGS

Members of the CBC regularly call on policy experts, industry leaders, and government officials in an interactive exchange of policy ideas and strategy.

10 - 20 - 30 PLAN MEETING

Members of the Congressional Black Caucus met with Cabinet Officials including Secretary Anthony Foxx, Secretary Thomas J. Vilsack, Secretary Thomas E. Perez, and Secretary Julian Castro to discuss implementing the 10-20-30 funding formula into their budget priorities.



ATTORNEY GENERAL LYNCH

After waiting longer for a confirmation than any other Attorney General nominee in 30 years and with constant pressure from the CBC, the Senate confirmed Loretta Lynch as the first African American female Attorney General of the United States. Following her confirmation, Attorney General Lynch met with CBC Members to discuss Criminal Justice Reform.



Hon. Loretta Lynch

FORMER SECRETARY HILLARY CLINTON

Members of the CBC met with former U.S. Secretary of State Hillary Clinton to discuss pressing foreign and domestic policy issues and how they impact the African American community.



NBC EXECUTIVES ON DIVERSITY

CBC Members and NBC Executives gather to discuss issues and collective priorities; specifically staff diversity and diverse programming.

DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

CBC Members met with Secretary Thomas E. Perez to discuss the implications of the proposed Fiduciary Rule and its impacts on minority communities.



SOUTHERN POVERTY LAW CENTER

CBC Members met with the President of the Southern Poverty Law Center to discuss CBC priorities and the work of the Southern Law Poverty Center. Members discussed efforts in the areas of criminal justice reform, sentencing reform, and community policing.





FIELD FORUMS & EVENTS

Members of the Congressional Black Caucus (CBC) and the Joint Economic Committee (JEC) Democrats held public forums in Baltimore, MD and Harlem, NY to highlight the impact of economic challenges and persistent inequities facing African Americans.



BALTIMORE, MARYLAND

On June 23, 2015, members of the Congressional Black Caucus (CBC) and the Joint Economic Committee (JEC) heard from clergy, community leaders, and academic experts at a forum to discuss the vast disparities in economic conditions for African Americans and whites.

The forum titled, “The American Dream on Hold: Economic Challenges in the African American Community,” was hosted by Congressman G. K. Butterfield, Chairman of the CBC; Congresswoman Carolyn B. Maloney, Ranking Democrat on the JEC; and Congressman Elijah E. Cummings, Ranking Member of the House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform. Members of the CBC and members Maryland were also in attendance.



HARLEM, NEW YORK

Members of the Congressional Black Caucus (CBC) and the Joint Economic Committee (JEC) Democrats held a public forum at the Harlem Hospital Center to discuss the impact of economic challenges and persistent inequities facing the African American community in Harlem, New York. Members heard from New York community and academic leaders during an informative discussion on the vast economic disparities among African Americans and whites around the country.

Congressman G. K. Butterfield, Chairman of the Congressional Black Caucus (CBC); Congresswoman Carolyn B. Maloney, Ranking Democrat on the U.S. Congress Joint Economic Committee (JEC); Congressman Charles B. Rangel, Congresswoman Yvette D. Clarke, and Congressman Hakeem Jeffries were in attendance.





FIELD FORUMS & EVENTS

Members of the CBC regularly call on policy experts, industry leaders and government officials in an interactive exchange of policy ideas and strategy.



IMPACTS OF SEQUESTRATION ROUNDTABLE



CBC Chairman G. K. Butterfield (NC), House Democratic Whip Steny H. Hoyer (MD), Congresswoman Barbara Lee (CA); and Congresswoman Eleanor Holmes Norton (DC) hosted a student roundtable discussion at Howard University where they discussed sequestration and the disproportionate impact arbitrary cuts will have on minority communities, particularly to Pell Grant funding and student financial aid.



CBC MEMBERS MARCH WITH THE NAACP



Members of the CBC welcomed the NAACP to the nation's capital by joining in on the final leg of their march to Washington, D.C. from Selma, Alabama. The NAACP and the CBC share common priorities of criminal justice reform, uncorrupted and unfettered access to the ballot box, sustainable jobs with a living wage, and equity in public education.





ESTABLISHED 1971

MEETINGS WITH THE ADMINISTRATION

Members of the Congressional Black Caucus meet with the 44th President of the United States and former Member of the caucus, Barack Obama.



CBC MEETS WITH OBAMA ADMINISTRATION

Members of the CBC met with President Barack Obama and Vice President Joe Biden at the White House. Members discussed a variety of issues such as criminal justice reform, economic security, education, trade, and funding for persistent poverty communities.



CBC MEMBERS VISIT KENYA WITH PRESIDENT OBAMA

President Obama invited Members to accompany him on his visit to Kenya. While there, Members met with government officials, innovative entrepreneurs, business owners, and the public while reinforcing the U.S. commitment to economic growth and trade, democracy, and investing in the next generation of African leaders.



150TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE RATIFICATION OF THE 13TH AMENDMENT

On December 9, 2015 in the Capitol Visitors Center - Emancipation Hall, Members of the CBC joined House and Senate leaders to commemorate the 150th anniversary of the ratification of the 13th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution, which abolished slavery in the United States. The President of the United States, Barack Obama, delivered the keynote address.





IN THE NEWS

THE CBC WANTS DIVERSITY IN THE TECH INDUSTRY

USA Today: The 46-member caucus' diversity task force hosts its CBC Tech 2020 event in Washington on Tuesday to let tech giants know that the influential group is looking for results.

—Mark Snider, May 19, 2015

TIME TO FACE TRUTH ABOUT POVERTY IN AMERICA

CNN: An Op-Ed by Ranking Democrat on the U.S. Congress Joint Economic Committee Congresswoman Carolyn Maloney (NY) and CBC Chairman G. K. Butterfield (NC) highlighting the economic disparities facing the African American community.

—Rep. Carolyn Maloney & Rep. G. K. Butterfield, May 12, 2015

CBC CHAIRMAN: 'BLACK AMERICA IS IN A STATE OF EMERGENCY'

Roll Call: The Congressional Black Caucus is still getting up and running for the 114th Congress — it announced its staff Monday — but its new chairman sees an urgency for an organization that has long been known to represent the interests of minorities and the poor.

—Matt Fuller, February 23, 2015





ESSENCE

IN THE NEWS

CHICAGO SHOOTING 'PROOF' OF BIAS IN POLICE

Washington Examiner: The Congressional Black Caucus is applauding the Justice Department's decision to investigate the Chicago Police Department, but says the decision is also "further proof" that bias by law enforcement is a real problem in the nation.

—Kelly Cohen, December 7, 2015

CBC CALLS ON SILICON VALLEY TO IMPROVE DIVERSITY

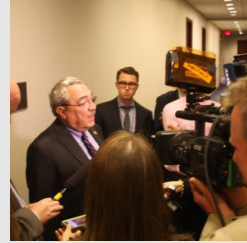
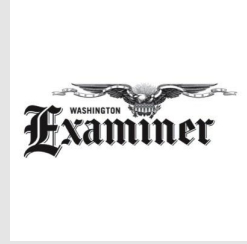
RE/CODE: Members of the Congressional Black Caucus traveled to Silicon Valley this week to deliver a message: Technology companies need to hire more black Americans. Caucus members met with some of the industry's biggest employers — Apple, Google, Intel, SAP and Pandora — to seek an accounting of how these companies plan to achieve their stated goal of a more diverse workforce.

—Dawn Chmielewski, August 4, 2015

HOUSE DEMS WANT VOTING RIGHTS ACT BEEFED UP

Real Clear Politics: House Democrats on Thursday renewed their push for the restoration of a key provision of the Voting Rights Act that was struck down by the Supreme Court two years ago, arguing that Americans' anger over polarizing symbols such as the Confederate flag should motivate Republicans to take "substantive action" to protect minority voting rights.

—Andrew Desiderio, July 16, 2015





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CBC MESSAGE TO AMERICA

Members of the CBC sit down periodically to speak directly to the American People on issues important to them.

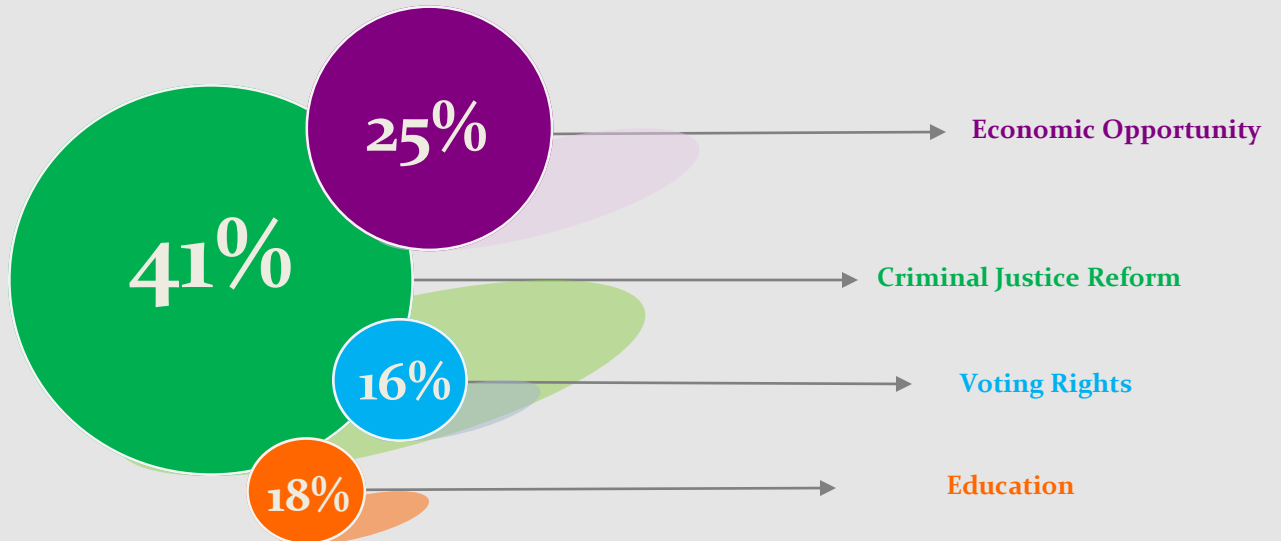


Representative Alma Adams
North Carolina's 12th Congressional District



Representative Marcia L. Fudge
11th Congressional District of Ohio

MESSAGE TO AMERICA AUDIENCE ENGAGEMENT BY THE ISSUE



“41% of Message to America video views went to videos about Criminal Justice Reform”



TECH 2020 INITIATIVE

African Americans are largely an untapped talent pool; therefore, the **CBC TECH 2020** is an initiative to bring together the best minds in the tech, non-profit, education, and public sector to *increase African American inclusion at all levels of the technology industry by year 2020*. The key principles of the initiative include, transparency, education and training, corporate responsibility and investment, as well as hiring and retention.

www.cbc-butterfield.house.gov/tech



Diversity Taskforce Members



Rep. G. K. Butterfield
(NC-01)



Rep. Barbara Lee
(CA-13)



Rep. Sanford Bishop
(GA-02)



Rep. Emmanuel Cleaver II
(MO-5)



Rep. Hakeem Jeffries
(NY-08)



Rep. Eddie B. Johnson
(TX-30)



Rep. Hank Johnson
(GA-04)



Rep. Bennie Thompson
(MS-02)



TECH 2020 INITIATIVE

"We will evaluate whether American corporations who depend on government contracts and tax preferences are making a serious diversity effort in Board Rooms, executive suites, and the workforce. We will look at whether corporations are investing in underserved communities. And if they are failing, we will expose it and insist on change." - Chairman G. K. Butterfield

IN THE NEWS



In 2016, we don't need Truman style presidential courage to promote diversity and inclusion - just common sense. #Tech2020

- Rep. Emmanuel Cleaver (MO-05) in THE HILL



SANDBERG TO COURT CBC

The CBC Diversity Task Force will travel to Silicon Valley from August 2 to August 4 to meet with companies at the forefront of innovation – but lacking a diverse workforce. - POLITICO

APPLE DIVERSITY

Congressional Black Caucus asks Apple to release diversity report after meeting with Tim Cook. —APPLE Insider



CBC Heads to Silicon Valley

The Congressional Black Caucus delegation is going to visit Silicon Valley to help tackle Big Tech's diversity problem.

Congresswoman Barbara Lee, co-chair of the CBC diversity task force said, "Increasing diversity and inclusion within the tech sector is not only a moral imperative, it's good for business and vital to continue economic growth."

- CNN Money





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114th Congress

Congressional Black Caucus Staff



Abdul Henderson
Executive Director



Kendra Brown
Policy Director



Candace Randle Person
Director of National Media



Reggie A. McCrimmon
Director of Member Services & External Affairs





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