



CONGRESSIONAL BLACK CAUCUS

2023 Q2 REPORT 



MESSAGE FROM CHAIRMAN HORSFORD



We won't be silenced and we aren't going back.

The members of the CBC continue to defend our democracy from the attacks on public education, ensure diverse representation in the federal judiciary and protect voting rights for all — the right from which all other rights are achieved.

The last few months have presented new challenges and opportunities to address. From the recent decisions by the U.S. Supreme Court to strike down race-conscious preferences in the admissions process in higher education, to a startling case that allows discrimination — for the first time ever — to be upheld based on someone's beliefs regarding sexual orientation, to the courts overreach against the executive branch to provide relief to families and students facing the mounting burden of student debt.

The Court upheld Section 2 of the Voting Rights *Act in Allen v. Milligan*, which will provide for full representation of Black voters in Alabama, Louisiana, potentially Georgia, and other states. The Court also struck down the independent state theory advanced by conservative state legislators in North Carolina which would give state legislatures unchecked power to overturn federal elections. Despite these important wins, the work ahead on defending democracy, advancing race, equity and inclusion continue to be among the most critical issues of our time.

This past quarter, CBC members promoted issues of women's equality in the fight to pass the Equal Rights Amendment, promoted the importance of fatherhood through the Commission on the Social Status of Black

Men and Boys, advanced important priorities for Black service members and families and secured historic funding for HBCUs in the national defense budget advanced in the House.

Building bridges to the African diaspora, CBC members hosted and participated in a number of important convenings with the Canadian Black Parliamentary Caucus in Washington, DC, and House Democratic Leader Hakeem Jeffries led a delegation of members to the 50th anniversary of CariCom in Trinidad and Tobago to promote the important relationships between the U.S. and Caribbean nations.

In partnership with the CBC Institute, members have participated in Democracy for the People Summer of Action town halls and forums in Charleston, South Carolina; Columbus, Ohio; Chicago, Illinois; New Orleans, Louisiana; and Las Vegas, Nevada to date with more cities to come prior to the 60th Anniversary of the March on Washington in August.

Democracy for the People has provided Members opportunities to listen directly to the people in the communities we serve and to provide rapid response information on the various Supreme Court decisions and local/state actions impacting democracy and race.

We will continue to advance the mission of the CBC and deliver historic wins for the American people, particularly for Black America, by building on our historic job creation, securing capital for entrepreneurs and small businesses, investing in our communities around broadband and infrastructure and working to address environmental injustice in the communities our Members represent.

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HORSFORD**
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**YVETTE
CLARKE**
First Vice Chair



Rep.
**TROY
CARTER**
Second Vice Chair



Rep.
**LUCY
MCBATH**
Secretary



Rep.
**MARILYN
STRICKLAND**
Whip



DEBT LIMIT/ SNAP

The CBC stood strong against **MAGA Republicans' proposed cuts** and heightened work requirements for **SNAP** during the debt ceiling negotiations with strong leadership from Rep. Jahana Hayes and Rep. David Scott.

During negotiations surrounding the debt ceiling, the CBC drew nationwide attention to the detrimental effects the Republicans' plan would have on the communities we serve.

Recognizing the critical importance of SNAP in reducing hunger, the CBC worked with the Biden-Harris Administration to ensure that millions of hard-working Americans could maintain access to food, while expanding benefits to homeless individuals, veterans, and youth who aged out of foster care through age 24.

DEMOCRACY

In anticipation of **voting rights and redistricting decisions** in *Allen v. Milligan*, *Moore v. Harper*, and *Students for Fair Admissions v. UNC and Harvard* the CBC convened a historic and first-of-its-kind **National Summit on Democracy and Race** engaging scholars, activists, and policy experts to develop legislative, executive, and community-based solutions to fortify our democracy. Following the Summit, the Congressional Black Caucus

Institute **launched Democracy for the People** to hold messaging and mobilization events on democracy and race in America in cities across the country.

Read together — democracy won at the Supreme Court. The CBC will continue to push for the passage of the **John R. Lewis Voting Rights Advancement Act** to restore the **Voting Rights Act**, address nationwide voter suppression tactics targeting Black communities, and ensure the promise of one person, one vote.



PUBLIC SAFETY

In the year since President Biden issued the executive order to advance accountable policing, the CBC has held the Administration accountable for full and effective implementation of all provisions in the order.

The CBC met with Attorney General Merrick Garland, Associate Attorney General Vanita Gupta, and Assistant Attorney General Kristen Clarke to discuss the Department's progress in instituting use of force **policies that focus on prioritizing human life, ending chokeholds and no-knock warrants, eliminating the transfer of military weapons to local police departments**, providing guidance to states and localities on conducting internal misconduct investigations, and prioritizing awarding grants to local agencies that voluntarily adopt the provisions in the executive order.

Due in part to the CBC's advocacy, the Department has satisfied many of the provisions in the order, reflecting an important step toward keeping all communities safe. The CBC is continuing to advocate for meaningful **bipartisan public safety legislation** to create safer communities and hold



police officers who violate the public trust accountable.

BLUE SLIP

The CBC engaged with both the White House and Senator Dick Durbin to solidify meaningful participation and consultation with Members who have judicial vacancies in their districts or states to ensure that **diverse nominees — particularly civil rights lawyers — are swiftly advanced through the Senate Judiciary Committee** to receive a vote on the Senate floor.

As a result of our advocacy, **Judge Nancy Abudu was confirmed to be the first Black woman on the 11th Circuit Court of Appeals**,



covering Florida, Alabama, and Georgia on May 18, 2023, and **Judge Natasha Merle was confirmed to the Eastern District of New York** on June 21, 2023 after waiting over a year for vote. The CBC will continue to engage substantively in the nominations process and will advance nominees that will uphold our values.

MEMBER HIGHLIGHTS



- **Rep. Lauren Underwood, Rep. Alma Adams, and Sen. Cory Booker** reintroduced the Black Maternal Health Omnibus Act
- **Rep. André Carson** hosted his annual Youth Opportunities Fair in Indianapolis
- **Rep. James E. Clyburn** celebrated the opening of the International African American Museum in Charleston, S.C., a project that he's been involved in for over 20 years
- **Rep. James E. Clyburn** welcomed Energy Secretary Granholm to Columbia, S.C. to highlight the Biden-Harris Admin's investments in clean energy
- **Rep. Bennie G. Thompson** held town halls on Belzoni and Winona tornado recovery
- **Rep. Bonnie Watson Coleman** re-released the Black Women's Best Report
- **Rep. Jonathan L. Jackson** held a town hall announcing his request of \$21,615,000 in Community Project Funding for fiscal year 2024
- **Rep. Troy A. Carter, Sr.** secured \$3.8 million to fund the completion of the first two "lighthouses" that will serve residents during extended power outages, the single largest community project funding in the nation for a solar-related project
- **Rep. Troy A. Carter, Sr.** celebrated \$3,907,000 in funding for Orleans Parish Sheriff's Office Justice Reform Initiatives

- **Rep. Troy A. Carter Sr.** launched the Disaster Equity and Building Resilience Caucus
- **Rep. Jahana Hayes** secured \$1 million in Medicare reimbursements for veterans at the Curtis Home in Meriden
- **Rep. Jahana Hayes** hosted a Passport Day with the U.S. Department of State. Over 100 passport applications were processed in just one day
- **Rep. Jahana Hayes** hosted the Nutrition Roundtable with Connecticut Foodshare & End Hunger Connecticut at Central Connecticut State University
- **Rep. Jahana Hayes** attended Apex Danbury Pride to celebrate Pride Month
- **Rep. Jahana Hayes** announced the award of 25 zero-emission school buses to provide school transportation services for the Connecticut Technical Education and Career System (CTECS)
- **Rep. Sheila Cherfilus-McCormick** received the 2023 Public Policy Award from the National Coalition for Homeless Veterans
- **Rep. Sheila Cherfilus-McCormick** hosted a roundtable on Haiti's humanitarian and insecurity crises with the Ambassador of Canada to Haiti
- **Rep. Sheila Cherfilus-McCormick** joined local leaders for health care and veterans' issues roundtables
- **Rep. Sheila Cherfilus-McCormick** served as the keynote speaker for the American University of Antigua Class of 2023 commencement
- **Rep. Colin Allred** announced candidacy for U.S. Senate in Texas
- **Rep. Lisa Blunt Rochester** announced candidacy for U.S. Senate seat in Delaware
- **Rep. Don Davis** held a Black Farmers Roundtable to ensure we are doing all we can to provide Black farmers with the resources they need to keep their farms thriving for generations to come
- **Rep. Emanuel Cleaver** helped secure nearly \$15 million in federal funding to expand sustainable transportation options, cut down on harmful pollution in Kansas City
- **Rep. Glenn Ivey** received the Association of Black Princeton Distinguished Alumni Award
- **Rep. Maxwell Frost** held a Gun Violence Prevention town hall
- **Rep. Maxwell Frost** held the "On the Frontlines of Democracy: Young & Fed Up" press conference with Tennessee State Rep. Justin Jones
- **Rep. Kweisi Mfume** held a press conference to announce the Henrietta Lacks Congressional Gold Medal Act
- **Rep. Lucy McBath, Rep. Mike Thompson, House Democratic Leader Hakeem Jeffries, House Democratic Whip Katherine Clark, Assistant Democratic Leader Jim Clyburn, and Speaker Emerita Nancy Pelosi** announced a legislative strategy on gun violence prevention
- **Rep. Lucy McBath** led House Democrats on effort to force Republican majority to act on gun reform
- **Rep. Lucy McBath** spoke at Sen. Chris Murphy's first National Safer Communities Summit
- **Rep. Barbara Lee** filed a discharge petition, which would require Speaker McCarthy to hold a vote on the Women's Health Protection Act

- **Rep. Gwen Moore** celebrated the new Bus Rapid Transit route for the Milwaukee County Transit System
- **Rep. Gwen Moore** hosted a roundtable with local union leaders & climate advocates to discuss the Inflation Reduction Act
- **Rep. Gwen Moore** hosted the Foster Youth Shadow Day
- **Rep. Robin Kelly** and U.S. Senators Dick Durbin and Tammy Duckworth introduced the bicameral “Wear Orange” resolution in observance of National Gun Violence Awareness Month
- **Rep. Robin Kelly** spoke at the 40 under 40 awards at the 2023 National Minority Quality Forum Summit on Health Disparities and Spring Health Braintrust
- **Rep. Robin Kelly** met with Veteran Affairs Secretary to discuss how the PACT Act is helping Veterans in Illinois get the health benefits they need
- **Rep. Robin Kelly** met with leaders from Everytown to discuss the implementation of critical programs passed in the Bipartisan Safer Communities Act
- **Rep. Robin Kelly** hosted a Black Women and Girls Task Force event in Kankakee
- **Rep. Terri Sewell** convened civil rights and voting rights leaders at the 16th Street Baptist Church in Birmingham to strategize a path forward on voting rights for the 10th anniversary of *Shelby County v. Holder*
- **Rep. Valerie Foushee** hosted a Gun Violence Prevention Community Discussion in Durham, N.C.
- **Rep. Sheila Jackson Lee** honored fallen service members during the 14th Annual Memorial Day ceremony in Houston at the World War II Memorial Plaza
- **Rep. Sheila Jackson Lee** recognized Juneteenth at the Historic Ashton Villa in Galveston, Texas
- **Rep. Sheila Jackson Lee** announced \$750,000 for the Buffalo Bayou Streamback Stabilization Project in Houston, Harris County
- **Rep. Sheila Jackson Lee** welcomed back WNBA player Brittney Griner
- **Rep. Sydney Kamlager-Dove and Rep. Shontel Brown** introduced the “One Stop Shop Community Reentry Program Act
- **Rep. Shontel Brown and Rep. Emilia Strong Sykes** were joined by HHS Secretary for events on food insecurity, the health workforce, and the IRA Drug provisions

KEY MOMENTS *(Since March 31, 2023)*

06

APRIL

CBC Issues Letter to **Secretary Buttigieg** requesting **DOT develop reforms** to reduce racial inequities in traffic stops

07

APRIL

CBC Convenes Emergency Meeting on **Tennessee Three**

26

APRIL

Tri-Caucus Issues Letters to President Biden & Speaker McCarthy on SNAP

CBC Weekly Business Meeting with **Deputy Secretary Wally Adeyemo, OMB Director Shalanda Young, and Tennessee State Rep. Justin Jones**

28

APRIL

CBC Meeting with **Senate Judiciary Chairman Dick Durbin**

09

MAY

National Summit on Democracy & Race and Press Conference

18

MAY

CBC Meeting with **Attorney General Merrick Garland**

23

MAY

CBC Meeting with **Canadian Parliamentary Black Caucus**

25

MAY

CBC Applauds **DOJ on President Biden Executive Order Progress**

27

MAY

CBCI Launches **Democracy for the People in Charleston, S.C.**

01

JUNE

CBC Commemorates **Pride Month**

05

JUNE

CBC Meeting with **Divine Nine Fraternities**

CBC Commemorates **Caribbean Heritage Month**

07

JUNE

CBC Weekly Business Meeting with **EXIM Chair Reta Jo Lewis**

08

JUNE

CBC Responds to Supreme Court Decision in **Allen v. Milligan Decision**

13

JUNE

CBC Supports **Posthumous Congressional Gold Medal for Henrietta Lacks**

15

JUNE

CBC Meeting with **Secretary Antony Blinken**

CBC Issues letter to **Secretary Xavier Becerra** advocating for **Department to prioritize contracting with small businesses**

19

JUNE

CBC Members Commemorate **Juneteenth**

21

JUNE

CBC Weekly Meeting with **Secretary Tom Vilsack**

05 BY THE NUMBERS

212
BILLS FILED



58
MEMBERS



10
MEMBER & STAFF
BRIEFING/MEETINGS



3
PRESS
CONFERENCES



9
WEEKLY BUSINESS
MEETINGS





The Hill: [Congressional Black Caucus demands response from DOJ on police accountability](#)

MSNBC: [Congressional Black Caucus calls for expelled state reps. to be reinstated](#)

Washington Post: [Congressional Black Caucus holds emergency meeting after Tenn. expulsions](#)

POLITICO: [Black Caucus presses Senate Dems to blow up tradition on judges](#)

Canadian Broadcast Company: [Canada's Parliamentary Black Caucus finds common ground with U.S. counterparts](#)

The Hill: [CBC holds race and democracy summit, issues call to action ahead of 2024](#)

POLITICO: [The Congressional Black Caucus is looking to reignite another voting rights push, in response to the Supreme Court possibly taking up a case on the Voting Rights Act.](#)

MSNBC: [CBC Chair Rep. Steven Horsford discusses the debt ceiling stand-off](#)

WCSC Live 5 News: [Nationwide initiative to increase Black American voting launches in Charleston](#)

The Grio: [Congressional Black Caucus will soon embark on nationwide tour to protect Black Americans' fundamental rights](#)

The Hill: [Congressional Black Caucus addresses changes since murder of George Floyd, calls for more action](#)

Axios: [Black lawmakers push Congress to do more on police reform](#)

POLITICO: [Top Congressional Black Caucus members are calling for the Biden administration to yank two judicial nominations.](#)

The Hill: [Report of discriminatory policing in Minneapolis 'unsurprising,' says Congressional Black Caucus](#)

ABC News: [Delaware Congresswoman Lisa Blunt Rochester announces bid for US Senate](#)

AFRO Newspaper: [Henrietta Lacks recommended for Congressional Gold Medal](#)

The Grio: [Congressional members honor late Rep. John Lewis with postage stamp](#)

The Black Wall Street Times: [Congresswoman Frederica Wilson Celebrates Black Fatherhood](#)

The Grio: [Congressional Black Caucus demands Biden take action to address bias against Black migrants](#)

The Hill: [Black Caucus says Supreme Court has 'thrown into question its own legitimacy' with affirmative action ruling](#)

118TH CONGRESS CBC MEMBERS BY SENIORITY

Hon. Eleanor Holmes Norton
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Hon. Maxine Waters
CA-43

Hon. Sanford Bishop
GA-02

Hon. James E. Clyburn
SC-06

Hon. Robert C. "Bobby" Scott
VA-03

Hon. Bennie G. Thompson
MS-02

Hon. Sheila Jackson Lee
TX-18

Hon. Danny Davis
IL-07

Hon. Gregory Meeks
NY-05

Hon. Barbara Lee
CA-13

Hon. David Scott
GA-13

Hon. Emanuel Cleaver
MO-05

Hon. Al Green
TX-09

Hon. Gwen Moore
WI-04

Hon. Yvette D. Clarke
NY-09

Hon. Hank Johnson
GA-04

Hon. Kweisi Mfume
MD-07

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IN-07

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AL-07

Hon. Frederica Wilson
FL-24

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OH-03

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NY-08

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TX-33

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D-NJ

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NC-12

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D-VI

Hon. Bonnie Watson Coleman
NJ-12

Hon. Dwight Evans
PA-03

Hon. Lisa Blunt Rochester
D-DE

Hon. Steven Horsford
NV-04

Hon. Colin Allred
TX-32

Hon. Jahana Hayes
CT-05

Hon. Lucy McBath
GA-07

Hon. Joe Neguse
CO-02

Hon. Ilhan Omar
MN-05

Hon. Ayanna Pressley
MA-07

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IL-14

Hon. Nikema Williams
GA-05

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MO-01

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NY-16

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NY-15

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WA-10

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LA-02

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OH-11

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FL-20

Hon. Jasmine Crockett
TX-30

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NC-01

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NC-04

Hon. Maxwell Frost
FL-10

Hon. Glenn Ivey
MD-04

Hon. Jonathan Jackson
IL-01

Hon. Sydney Kamlager-Dove
CA-37

Hon. Summer Lee
PA-12

Hon. Emilia Sykes
OH-13

Hon. Jennifer McClellan
VA-04

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