



The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People stands firm in its pursuit of an inclusive community rooted in liberation where all persons can exercise their civil and human rights without discrimination.

For nearly a decade, we've experienced unrelenting attacks and faced insurmountable obstacles to that continued pursuit due to both the actions, and inactions of many elected officials.

Through our continued work to advocate for and empower the Black community, we have identified the following key policy priorities for the remainder of the 118th Congress. We believe that, based on recent current events and threats that loom over our nation, the advancement of progress on these policies is crucial to securing support from the Black electorate.

We must end mass incarceration and protect Black communities from the persistent threat of violence

- No badge should be a shield from accountability. Congress must pass legislation to **end qualified immunity and develop a national database to remove officers engaged in a pattern of misconduct from our communities.**
 - **The NAACP continues to support the passage of the George Floyd Justice in Policing Act** in addition to mandatory, enhanced training to eliminate bias and promote de-escalation tactics.
- Our fundamentally flawed carceral system continues to disproportionately harm Black Americans. The NAACP **supports shifting resources from carceral solutions to address the social determinants that contribute to crime. These solutions include education and community development, the elimination of mandatory minimum sentences for non-violent offenses, mental health treatment, and an end to the death penalty.**
- The NAACP strongly believes that **any use of artificial intelligence (AI) technologies in criminal justice must be tested to ensure that technologies are race-neutral** and do not over-index on the identification of Black Americans and other people of color.
- Hate has no place in a democracy, and neither do assault weapons. **Passing an assault weapons ban** is a crucial step towards advancing public safety and preventing the continued perpetuation of domestic terrorism.

Racial equity cannot exist without economic equality

- The crushing weight of student debt is a crisis and must be treated as such. In the wake of inaction from the Biden Administration and unjust rulings from the Supreme Court,

Congressional leaders have an obligation to promote the pursuit of higher education and create pathways to cancellation for borrowers.

- Supporting Black entrepreneurs is a crucial element to building Black generational wealth and promoting economic equity. **Private sector financial institutions must be held accountable when they fail to provide Black businesses and individuals with the financial solutions and capital needed to create economic success.**
- As industries use artificial intelligence (AI) technologies to streamline lending decisions, **the NAACP stands firmly against the use of biometric indicators in lending algorithms.** AI must serve the needs of people, to ensure that bias is not incorporated, deepening existing gaps in access to capital.

We must embrace diversity, no matter what

- Black history is American history. **Anti-democratic legislatures must end their assault on the accurate teaching of Black history and the omnipresent effects of systemic racism.**
 - Children and young people deserve the opportunity to learn the full picture of American history and understand the connections between past and present. **Teachers need to be given the opportunity to instruct without interference from anti-democratic governors and state legislatures that are more concerned with politics than an accurate picture of history.**
 - Freedom to learn is democracy in action, and education should facilitate the skills and critical thinking young people need to thrive in a diverse society.
- The Supreme Court's decision to end Affirmative Action defies reality - discrimination continues to exist and affirmative steps are needed to ensure that equity and opportunity remain. In the wake of the court's missteps, **we urge legislative leaders to explore and identify best practices to ensure that institutions of higher education can continue to attract, and retain diverse students and faculty.**

If we are to sustain and promote democracy, every American must have equal access to free and fair elections

- The future of our democracy is dependent on the expansion, not degradation of voting rights. **The NAACP urges federal legislators to pass the John Lewis Voting Rights Act and continue to devise pathways to expanded voter access.**

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