2020 California/Hawaii State Conference of Branches

RESOLUTIONS

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California/Hawaii State Conference

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California/Hawaii State Conference
# 2020 Branches Resolutions – State Convention Part II

December 12, 2020

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WHEREAS, today’s headlines are full of stories detailing encounters between law enforcement officials and young people. Unfortunately, some of these stories do not have happy endings. Law enforcement is both a difficult and dangerous profession. Many police officers, men, women, and youth are killed each year and thousands are injured, and

WHEREAS, while most officers of the law have standard procedures to follow, most young people do not. These procedures may vary from state to state. Police are trained to place a great deal of emphasis on their safety and survival and our youth do not understand and how to adhere to best rules and practices when interacting with law enforcement. Our young people do not know and understand what their basic rights and responsibilities are, and

WHEREAS, most of our youth do not know how to minimize potential charges and/or the use of excessive force against them, and how to delineate the use of deadly force by law enforcement, and

WHEREAS, as a result, there is often a breakdown in communication between law enforcement officials and young people, and

WHEREAS, in the past a collaborative effort was made between the National Association of Colored People, the National Organization of Black Law Officers (NOBLE) and Allstate Insurance Company to develop basic guidelines for our youth to use to avoid negative run-ins with law enforcement, and

WHEREAS, many of our young people do not know of these suggestive and the basic rules they should use when stopped on the street, stopped in their car, when law enforcement comes to their doors, police misconduct, and their rights once they have been arrested.

THEREFORE, LET IT BE RESOLVED, that the NAACP California-State Conference encourage its branches to work with their youth to prevent negative interaction with law enforcement, and
BE FINALLY RESOLVED, that the California-Hawaii State Conference recommend and use the same guidelines already in print by the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, National Organization of Black Law Enforcement, and Allstate Insurance to help ensure a smooth interaction between our young people and law enforcement.

2. CLOSING HEALTH EQUITY GAP OF BREAST CANCER INCIDENCE & MORTALITY

SUBMITTED BY:
Long Beach Branch NAACP and CA-HI NAACP State Conference

WHEREAS: The National Association for the Advance of Color People recognizes that cancer is the second leading cause of death in communities of color, with negative health impacts from 2020 only likely to increase incidence and mortality rates;

WHEREAS: In the United States, African American communities of color bear a disproportionate share of the cancer burden, having the highest death rate and the lowest survival rate of any racial or ethnic group for most cancers;

WHEREAS: More than 200,000 new cases of cancer and 70,000 cancer deaths are expected to occur among communities of color in the United States;

WHEREAS: For most cancer types, communities of color are more likely than whites to be diagnosed at a later stage of disease, when treatment choices are more limited and often less effective;

WHEREAS: The 5-year relative survival rate is lower in communities of color than in whites for every stage of diagnosis for most cancer sites. Much of this from socioeconomic barriers to timely, high-quality medical care;

WHEREAS: The lifetime probability of being diagnosed with cancer among communities of color women is 34%, respectively, compared with and 39%, among white women;

WHEREAS: Breast cancer is the most common cancer among communities of color women in the United States and is the second-leading cause of cancer death, with an estimated 33,840 new cases of breast cancer and 6,540 deaths expected to occur in 2019;

WHEREAS: During 2006 through 2015, the overall cancer incidence rate was stable in communities of color women (compared with a slight increase in white women), reflecting increasing rates for cancers of the breast juxtaposed with declining trends for cancers of the lung and colorectum;
WHEREAS: Breast cancer incidence rates are also higher among communities of color than among whites for women younger than 45 years. The median age of diagnosis is 59 years for black women compared with 63 years for white women;

WHEREAS: Higher breast cancer death rates among black women likely result from a combination of factors that are difficult to parse, including more advanced stage at diagnosis, higher prevalence of obesity and other comorbidities, and unfavorable tumor characteristics as well as less access and adherence to high-quality cancer treatment;

WHEREAS: A recent study by American Cancer Society researchers found that differences in insurance status and tumor characteristics were the most important factors contributing to the higher risk of death among younger (<65 years) black patients who had early-stage, HR-positive disease, explaining one-third and one-fifth of the disparity, respectively;

3. **NAACP ETHNIC AND GENDER STUDIES MANDATORY GRADUATION REQUIREMENT**

**SUBMITTED BY: Santa Maria-Lompoc, CA, Branch 1072**

**Whereas**, Federal and State Departments of Education, school boards, superintendents, administrators, teachers, and school employees have a responsibility to provide all students a quality education and a safe and inclusive learning environment; and

**Whereas**, all Schools seeks to provide a well-rounded and quality education that exposes students to cultures that are crucial to understanding our nation, past and present, and that helps our students to appreciate the rich histories and cultural contributions of their own communities; and

**Whereas**, the general mission of schools is to prepare student as global lifelong learners to succeed academically, intellectually, socially, emotionally, and culturally - in addition to providing the opportunities for students to be more culturally proficient; and

**Whereas**, the National Center for Education Statistics for 2014 show there were a total student enrollment in public elementary and secondary schools (K-12) in the United States and the District of Columbia, of 48.6 million. Percentage by racial/ethnicity for Fall 2014 were 49.5% or 24.9 million Caucasian/White, 16% or 7.8 million African American/Black, 25% or 12.8 million Hispanic, 5% or 2.6 million Asian/Pacific Islander, 1% or 0.5 million American Indian/Alaska native, and 3% or 1.6 million two or more races/ethnicities; and
Whereas, the adjusted cohort graduation rate (ACGR) was 83% for the 2014-2015 school year; and the drop-out rate nationally was 5.9% with the status dropout rate being lower for white/Caucasian youth than African American and Hispanic students, with the Caucasian drop-out rate at 4.6%, African American drop-out rate at 6.5%, and Hispanic student dropout rate at 9.2%.

Whereas, Caucasian/White enrollment is projected to continue decreasing between 2014 and fall 2026 and African American/Black, Hispanic, Asian/Pacific Islander, and American Indian/Alaska Native students’ enrollment is projected to continues to increase; and

Whereas, it is well documented that text books and classroom teachings are written and taught from a European/White/Caucasian perspective and that “White privilege permeates education.” These systems put in place for centuries continues, including the way teachers are trained, how they interact with students, the mindset of compliance and obedience, are all centered in whiteness. As students of color try to navigate this system, their voices aren’t heard because they are often seen as contrary to education rather than being seen as a strength of their diversity.

Whereas, there is substantial research evidence that well designed and well taught Ethnic and Gender Studies curricula have positive academic and social outcomes for all students; and

Whereas, ethnic and racial disparities must be recognized by the dominant group, presently represented by White/Anglo as those in positions of power and confronted by people of color in order for real alliances for social justice to exist; and

Whereas, presently student and teacher demographics are inversed in that the majority of teachers and administrators are White/Anglo, and the majority of students are students of color; and

Whereas, in 2010 the National Education Association (NEA) published The Academic and Social Value of Ethnic and Gender Studies, which reported Ethnic and Gender Studies made a positive impact in students of color, in addition to LGBTQIA (Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer, Intersex and Asexual) students. Results showed that Ethnic and Gender Studies benefited students in observable ways: educational outcomes on academic tests increased, graduation rates improved, students became more academically engaged, and they developed a sense of self-efficacy and personal empowerment.

Therefore, Be It Resolved, that the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People renew its efforts outlined in Ethnic and Gender Study Resolution that was passed and adopted in the Fall.
2018, calling for all schools to modify its existing graduation requirement to adopt and include, but not (be) limited to, mandatory courses in Ethnic and Gender Studies by the 2025 academic school year, effective for the graduating class of 2025 and beyond.

Therefore, Be It Further Resolved that Ethnic and Gender Studies requirement may be minimally fulfilled by a ten (10) credit, two (2) semester or yearlong A-G College approved Ethnic and Gender Studies Courses including, but not limited to, African American Studies, Women Studies, Chicano/Latino Studies, LatinX studies, LGBTQ+ Studies, History of the Mexican American courses, Indigenous and Native American studies /or course relative to people of color, women, and LGBTQ+.

THEREFORE BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People inform and work with Branches, Units, College Chapters, and Education Chairs to direct the State Superintendent of Education, Superintendent of Districts/Counties and/or Instructional Quality Commission (IQC) to draft and submit a model curriculum to the State Board of Education (SBE) by June 2023, to adopt a model curriculum by November 30, 2024 that works with teachers and education support professionals to create safe and supportive educational experiences for all students to spread the message of social justice, equity, and racial justice in white and other spaces, and to seek interested teachers who consciously confront and wrestle with narratives and practices that clothe youth of color, LGBTQ+ and others in layers of inferiority developing curriculums and additional course offerings within Ethnic and Gender Studies that fulfill the Ethnic and Gender Studies requirement; and create an Ethnic and Gender Studies Working Committee to ensure appropriate courses are being offered/taught, as well as appropriate teachers are teaching such courses.

4. NAACP ABOLISH THE SLAVERY EXCEPTION – ARTICLE I, SECTION 6 OF CALIFORNIA CONSTITUTION

SUBMITTED BY: Santa Maria-Lompoc, CA, Branch 1072

WHEREAS, mass incarceration has been used to keep African Americans in bondage since the end of slavery and author Michelle Alexander writes, in her New York Times bestseller, The New Jim Crow, “the backlash against the gains of African Americans in the Reconstruction Era was swift and severe. As African Americans obtained political power and began the long march toward greater social and economic equality, whites reacted with panic and outrage. ... Tens of thousands of African Americans were arbitrarily arrested during this period, many of them hit with court costs and fines, which had to be
worked off in order to secure their release. With no means to pay off their ‘debts,’ prisoners were sold as forced laborers to lumber camps, brickyards, railroads, farms, plantations, and dozens of corporations throughout the South;” and

**WHEREAS**, Racial and Ethnic disparities continue to exist as demonstrated by opportunity and achievement gaps to include, but not limited to, suspension and expulsion rates that continue to contribute to the School to Prison Pipeline; and racial and ethnic disparities of juveniles being incarcerated and placed on probation as compared to their White/Anglo peers; and

**WHEREAS**, communities use suppression as a primary means addressing social issues like community violence and gang-involvement versus investing in grassroot solutions that are culturally competent, and are focused more on prevention, intervention, and re-entry; and

**WHEREAS**, the use of African American and Latinx prison labor by private corporations continues to this day with inmate work programs turning into a massive supply of incredibly cheap and involuntary labor at one time or another in the last few years for everyone from Walmart to McDonald’s, to Victoria’s Secret, to the U.S. military. Even Whole Foods’ cheese was produced by prison labor, until public outcry shut it down; and

**WHEREAS**, the use of African American and Latinx prison labor by private corporations is made possible through the slavery exception which is found Article I of the 13th Amendment to the United States Constitution which allows slavery and involuntary servitude within the United States “as a punishment for crime whereof the party shall have been duly convicted” and Article I, Section 6 of the California Constitution reads “Slavery is prohibited. Involuntary servitude is prohibited except to punish crime.”

**WHEREAS**, the United States is the only country in the free world that allows slavery to exist within its boundaries and jurisdiction; and

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People **renew its efforts to amend Article I, Section 6 of the California Constitution** to simply state “Slavery is prohibited. Involuntary servitude is prohibited.”

**THEREFORE, BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED**, that the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People request Legislative hearings to study and amend Article I, Section 6 of the California Constitution and further call on the Black and Democratic Caucuses, State Assembly, State Senate, and Governor to support amending Article I, Section 6 of the California Constitution.
5. **ABOLISH THE DEATH PENALTY**

**SUBMITTED BY: Santa Maria-Lompoc, CA, Branch 1072**

**WHEREAS,** mass incarceration has been used to keep African Americans in bondage since the end of slavery and author Michelle Alexander writes, in her New York Times bestseller, *The New Jim Crow,* “the backlash against the gains of African Americans in the Reconstruction Era was swift and severe. As African Americans obtained political power and began the long march toward greater social and economic equality, whites reacted with panic and outrage…. Tens of thousands of African Americans were arbitrarily arrested during this period, many of them hit with court costs and fines, which had to be worked off in order to secure their release.”

**WHEREAS,** California’s capital punishment scheme is now, and always has been, “infected by racism;” since its inception, the death penalty has been disproportionately applied first, to enslaved Africans and African-Americans, and later to free Black people; and

**WHEREAS,** the population estimate from the U.S. Census Bureau QuickFacts for the United States as of July 1, 2019 estimates the population to be 328,239,523, with White alone at 76.3%, Black or African American alone at 13.4%, American Indian/Alaska Native at 1.3%, Asian alone 5.9%, Latinx or Hispanic at 18.5%; and

**WHEREAS,** there are 2,703 condemned prisoners on death row throughout the United States with racial demographic as 1077 Black (41.38%), 1099 White (42.22%), 352 Latinx (13.52%), 75 other (2.88% -27 Native American, 47 Asian and 1 unknown); and

**WHEREAS,** California has a population of approximately 39 million people and ranks as the world’s fifth largest economy (U.S. Census Fact Check); and

**WHEREAS,** California is one of 28 states in the nation that uses the death penalty as a mean of punishment and is one of three states (Oregon and Pennsylvania) with a gubernatorial moratorium (March 2019); and

**WHEREAS,** as of July 1, 2020, California Death Row is the largest in the country with 724 condemned prisoners including 23 females (Death Penalty Information Center); and
WHEREAS, demographics of California condemned by race depicts 259 Black, 239 White, 189 Latinx, 9 Native American, and 28 Asian; and

WHEREAS, a study in California found that those convicted of killing whites were more than 3 times as likely to be sentenced to death as those convicted of killing blacks and more than 4 times more likely as those convicted of killing Latinos. (Pierce & Radelet, Santa Clara Law Review, 2005); and

WHEREAS, the selection of defendants who receive the death penalty is influenced by irrelevant factors, such as geography, and whether the defendant was represented by a public defender or court-appointed lawyer; and
WHEREAS, district attorneys are elected officials and whether a defendant is charged with capital murder is an example of prosecutorial discretion not bound by any legal constraints set by death penalty statute, there is no way to prevent the death penalty from being imposed arbitrarily; there is no evidence that charging the death penalty corresponds to the gravity of the offense; and

WHEREAS, California Governor Gavin Newsom filed an amicus brief with the California Supreme Court on October 26, 2020 calling attention to “the unfair and uneven application of the death penalty” and referenced capital punishment sentencing as “infected by racism,” and “systemically arbitrary sentencing, in violation of the state’s Constitution and California Penal Code” citing “disparities, disproportionate exclusion of jurors of color from death penalty venires and aggravating circumstances that disproportionately apply to defendants of color;” and

WHEREAS, six current and former prosecutors (Becton, Boudin, Rosen. Verber Salazar, Garcetti, and Gascon) of The Prosecutors Alliance of California, an organization of progressive prosecutors, filed a court brief arguing “that the state’s death penalty is arbitrarily imposed” and “inconsistent with the values of a humane society…racially biased…. disproportionately imposed in cases where the victims were white or where the defendants were Black or Latinx; and

WHEREAS, a study in California by Alarcon & Mitchell (2011 – that considered pre-trial and trial costs, costs of automatic appeals and state habeas corpus petitions, cost of federal habeas corpus appeals, and costs of incarceration on death row) revealed that the cost of the death penalty in the state has been over 4 billion since 1978; and

WHEREAS, “there is growing recognition among prosecutors that the way in which the death penalty is applied in California is unjust and that racial bias continues to be a very serious problem;” and
WHEREAS, on December 7, 2020, California Assembly members Levine and Chiu introduced ACA-2 which seeks to amend the California Constitution to abolish the death penalty; and

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People call for abolition of the death penalty/capital punishment; and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People request State Senate and Assembly hearings, calls on the Legislative Black Caucus, Democratic Caucus in the Assembly and Senate, and the Governor of the State of California to support abolition of the death penalty/capital punishment.

6. EXPANDING TELEHEALTH TO REDUCE HEALTH DISPARITIES IN THE AFRICAN AMERICAN/BLACK COMMUNITY

SUBMITTED BY: California/Hawaii State Conference

WHEREAS, the recent pandemic of the novel coronavirus has reaffirmed the need to expand access to affordable, quality healthcare including medical, behavioral and dental care in the African American/Black community; and

WHEREAS, Many African American/Black communities are underserved by the traditional medical, behavioral and dental professions and, as a result, are often designated by the federal government as Medically Underserved Areas; and

WHEREAS, Telehealth technologies have proven to be highly effective in reaching African Americans/Black people throughout the pandemic when in-person visits have been limited; and

WHEREAS, Telehealth has the unique ability to quickly expand access to quality, affordable care to African Americans/Black people who have historically suffered from the lack of access to and excessive cost of healthcare; and

WHEREAS, Telehealth also has the unique ability to reduce the overall cost of healthcare throughout California; and
WHEREAS, Telehealth technologies are rapidly evolving to reach more people and address a growing list of health conditions; and

WHEREAS, The NAACP is concerned about the lack of progress in addressing African American/Black people’s healthcare disparities by federal, state and local governments and the traditional medical, behavioral and dental professions; and

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the NAACP calls upon the California legislature to pass legislation that expands access to telehealth, tele-vision, tele-dentistry, and virtual mental healthcare so that more Californians will have access to healthcare through technology and that additional barriers to telehealth is not enacted via statute or regulation; and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that the NAACP advocate for state policies that maximize the use and benefits of telehealth and tele-dentistry to address medical, behavioral, and dental issues within the African American/Black populations.

7. **HOUSING – SUPPORT TO CaIHFA BLACK HOMEOWNERSHIP INITIATIVE: BUILDING BLACK WEALTH**

**SPONSORED BY:** Housing Committee – California/Hawaii State Conference

**Whereas,** Racism against Black Americans has been systemic in our country since 1619, and

**Whereas,** in 2019, the share of Blacks in poverty was 1.8 times greater than their share among the general population. Blacks represented 13.2% of the total population in the United States, but 23.8% of the poverty population (U.S. Census Data), and

**Whereas,** access to homeownership, which remains the cornerstone for all Americans to build generational wealth, is still affected by the legacy of racist policies, and

**Whereas,** some racist practices designed to exclude and immobilize Black Americans are still in place, and
Whereas, the Black homeownership rate in California was just 41% in 2019, which is substantially lower than White Californians at 68%, Asians/Pacific Islander at 64%, Indigenous people at 58% and Latinos at 49%, and

Whereas, CalHFA’s Black Homeownership Initiative: Building Black Wealth is designed to educate Californians on these issues, partner with community-based organizations and give Black residents the tools they need to begin a journey toward homeownership, and

Whereas, this initiative will be a step in addressing the racial inequality in homeownership; and

Therefore, Be It Resolved, that the NAACP offers its full support and backing for the efforts of Building Black Wealth, and

THEREFORE, BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) and the California Association of Black Real Estate Trade Association support and partner CalHFA’s Black Homeownership Initiative to encourage improvement of access to capital and financing for African American consumers in relations to building Black wealth.

8. YOUTH EDUCATION AND TRAINING – SUPPORT OF THE CALIFORNIA HOMEBUILDING FOUNDATION – BUILDING INDUSTRY TECHNOLOGY ACADEMY

SPONSORED BY: California/Hawaii State Conference

Whereas, The California State Conference of the NAACP works to ensure that all disadvantaged students and students of color are on the path to college or a successful career by ensuring access to great teaching, equitable resources, and a challenging curriculum, and

Whereas, CA-HI NAACP is dedicated to eliminating the severe racial inequities that continue to plague our education system. Our ultimate goal is that every student of color receives a quality public education that prepares him or her to be a contributing member of a democracy, and

Whereas, to achieve these goals, the NAACP Education Committee, Labor Committee and of the Executive Committee, in concert with education chairs and leaders from across the Association, support a four-prong strategy to improve educational achievement for disadvantaged students:

· Increasing Resource Equity: Target funds to neediest kids
Whereas, the California Homebuilding Foundation has established and manages a statewide charitable educational program known as the Building Industry Technology Academy (BITA).

Whereas, the vision of the BITA is consistent with the NAACP - a thriving learning environment for California students to graduate high school with the skills and confidence to develop their professional careers in the homebuilding industry, and

Whereas, BITA is a comprehensive four-year high school program developed by education leaders and offers a curriculum aimed at producing skilled professionals who will be qualified and confident to enter the building industry or seek higher education at the College level.

Whereas, Students who complete the program will be given opportunities to interview for paid internships and will have developed an employable skill set for emerging trends in the building industry, and

Whereas, the mission of BITA is to cultivate a sustainable industry workforce by education and inspiring California high school students to pursue a career in construction, and

Whereas, this joint initiative between the CA-HA NAACP and BITA will be a step in addressing the education and training of Black youth in California, therefore, be it

Therefore, Be It Resolved, that the CA-HI NAACP offers its full support and backing for the efforts of BITA, and be it further

Therefore, Be Resolved, that the CA-HI NAACP encourages both private and public industry to lend their support to this effort, and be it further

Therefore, Be It Finally Resolved, that the CA-HI NAACP encourages the California State Legislature to enact legislation that advances the program.
9. **RESOLUTION ADDRESSING THE SUSPENSION AND EXPULSION RATES OF BLACK BOYS IN THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA**

**SPONSORED BY:** Greater Sacramento NAACP

**WHEREAS,** “exclusionary discipline” defined as suspension and expulsion, has disproportionately affected the Black male student population who are routinely removed from learning environments including over placement in special education, in-school suspension, out-of-school suspension, and even expulsion in Sacramento County; and

**WHEREAS,** in December 2020, the report entitled, *The Capitol of Suspensions: Examining the Racial Exclusion of Black Males in Sacramento County* was published to show the disparities that exist among Black males and their counterparts as a result of unconscious bias, microaggressions, culturally mediated behaviors and teaching practices that have perpetuated racial injustice and educational inequities within the school system; and

**WHEREAS,** Black boys and young men represent the group that is most likely to be suspended at 19.5%, compared to their white counterparts at 6.6% in the one of the most diverse states in the nation; and

**WHEREAS,** during the formative years, students begin to develop a perceived association with school, making assessments of their academic abilities, acquire foundational skills in reading and math, and question their sense of belonging in school environments; ultimately shaping children’s physical, psychosocial, emotional and cognitive growth for years to come; and

**WHEREAS,** the school to prison pipeline starts in the classroom and exclusionary discipline often leads to the initial contact with the criminal justice system; and

**WHEREAS,** AB 420 (Dickinson), Chapter 660, Statutes of 2014; prohibited suspension of a pupil in kindergarten or any of grades 1 to 3, or recommending the expulsion of a pupil enrolled in kindergarten or any of grades 1 to 12, from being suspended for disrupting school activities or otherwise willfully defying the valid authority of those school personnel engaged in the performance of their duties, and made these restrictions inoperative on July 1, 2918; however 2016-17 data collected by the CDE shows willful defiance accounted for 19% of all suspensions of Black males; and
WHEREAS, the NAACP is committed to serving and representing students in the State of California, and
works to ensure all students receive a free and appropriate education (FAPE) in accordance with state
and federal law;

WHEREAS, COVID-19 has exposed extreme inequities within the public school system and exclusionary
discipline continues even across digital platforms where students are “kicked out” of zoom classes for
what are inconsistencies from teacher-to-teacher, even within the same school, and schools within the
same district.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that NAACP demands Superintendent Tony Thurmond to review and
streamline suspension policies, the current impact on Black males; and require each district to
implement intensive, ongoing professional development for all educators on unconscious bias, racial
microaggressions, culturally mediated behaviors, and teaching practices for boys and young men of color
to reduce the overrepresentation of Black males in exclusionary discipline which is a function of bias and
stereotypes that can be harbored (often unconsciously) by educators.

THEREFORE, BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that the NAACP urge all branches to work with the districts in
their region to investigate and expose punitive actions against Black males that are not in compliance
with existing law with regard to willful defiance to ensure students are not unfairly targeted and unjustly
suspended.

10. RESOLUTION ADDRESSING THE HEALTH AND RECOVERY OF AFRICAN AMERICANS FROM
COVID-19 IN THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

SPONSORED BY: Greater Sacramento NAACP Branch

WHEREAS, the Sacramento Branch of the NAACP is consciously aware of the affects and impact of
COVID-19 on the California African American (Black) community and how it has devastated the
community with many lives compromised, lost and in hospitals being treated for the virus;

WHEREAS, the Governor of California has named Dr. Nadine Burke as our first California Surgeon
General to drive solutions on pressing public health challenges and provide the best scientific information
available on how to improve Californians health and reduce the risk of illness and injury. Dr. Burke’s
work offering education, materials, resources and support on COVID-19 and other health conditions that
disproportionately impact African Americans may address protective health measures; access to health
providers, medical facilities, and community health navigators; medicines and vaccines that are available and safe for the community; and medical research, prevention practices, and treatments that impact vulnerable and medically fragile communities of color;

WHEREAS, the California Legislative Black Caucus (Chair, Shirley N. Weber, Ph.D./Assembly Member) and Surgeon General Dr. Nadine Burks held a "Virtual" meeting to be viewed by citizens of California to discuss COVID-19 and what can be done to prevent further spread of the virus in our community;

WHEREAS, a joint venture has been created by the Federal Government, CDC, and the pharmaceutical corporations to produce vaccines to guard against infections, reduce severity of illness, and reduce the spread of the virus throughout communities protecting the health of individuals and families from experiencing the potentially devastating effects of COVID-19, and is now ready to distribute the vaccines across the country;

WHEREAS, the Sacramento Branch of the NAACP recommends that the State NAACP and the office of California Surgeon General (Dr. Nadine Burke), and the California Legislative Black Caucus host a "Virtual" meeting for Black communities of California to have a conversation around COVID-19 vaccines, treatment, research and safety, access to vaccines, monitoring of the vaccines impact in communities of color and other medical options available;

WHEREAS, the State NAACP, the California Surgeon General’s office, and California Legislative Black Caucus uphold this public health effort by producing a Virtual Zoom meeting prior to or as part of Black History Month celebrations by February 28th to promote, advance and protect the health of African American communities in California and present opportunities for information and care to communities of color;

WHEREAS, in the year, 2021, the State NAACP takes the position of leadership with the assistance of the entities mention above, to inform our communities of "color" of the available vaccines and all other options and protocols to preserve life and prevent the spread of COVID-19 in our communities;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the State NAACP, and the entities mentioned above produce a virtual forum for the Black community of California to bring knowledge, confidence, actionable steps, and relief to Black communities around COVID-19, vaccines for COVID-19, and the underlying conditions that make them vulnerable to COVID-19 or generally medically fragile.

THEREFORE, BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that the State NAACP urge all branches to work with public health officers and organizations in their region to host virtual sessions in the first quarter of 2021
to ensure African Americans and communities of color are fully educated on, aware of, and connected to health and safety measures related to COVID-19, vaccines for COVID-19 and their potential impact, health care resources and opportunities to improve overall health and well-being for themselves, their families, and communities.

11. REDUCE HEALTH DISPARITIES IN THE AFRICAN AMERICAN/BLACK COMMUNITY

SPONSORED BY: NAACP Stockton Branch

WHEREAS, the recent pandemic of the Corona Virus has re-affirmed the need for funding and increased advocacy for Health Education which will include the need for an annual Health Check-up in the African American/Black Community;

WHEREAS, African Americans/Black People suffer from the highest rates of medical disparities and have the highest mortality rate associated with diseases including COVID-19 than any other race; and

WHEREAS, the NAACP is concerned about the lack of attention being given to African American/Black People and these facts by the federal government and the medical profession; and

WHEREAS, national funding, community and faith-based programs have been reduced for low income and disadvantaged people, and

WHEREAS, there should be an annual medical checkup requirement for testing starting at age 35, identifying early detection of any disease; and

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the American Medical Association, Health Leadership Organizations, Community Based Organizations and Faith Based Organizations work together with the NAACP to implement a holistic public health plan for African American/Black people that will provide both public and private insurance funding.

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that the California/Hawaii State Conference urges the State Governor, State Legislature and all NAACP Units to advocate for policies and funding for annual
examinations that will reduce health inequities, and implement programs that educate and empower individuals and families on chronic disease risk factors and warning signs, healthy eating, and physical activity to address these critical issues within the African American/Black Populations.

12. Resolution to Prompt Investigation of CARES ACT Funding Intended for Small Businesses, Claimed by Charter Schools

SUBMITTED BY: San Jose / Silicon Valley Branch

WHEREAS, the Federal Government established the Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) as part of the CARES Act to allow small businesses, with less than 500 employees, to maintain their employment when they were impacted by the Covid-19 pandemic and the economic shutdowns; and

WHEREAS, the PPP was administered by the Small Business Administration (SBA) as a (forgivable) loan designed to provide a direct incentive for small businesses to keep their workers on the payroll; and

WHEREAS, California charter schools are publicly funded and lost none of this funding due to the Covid-19 crisis because like all public schools in California, charter schools are currently receiving public funding; and

WHEREAS, the SBA has made at least 268 PPP loans totaling between $240.7 million and $565.6 million to more than 420 California charter organizations that are still receiving their full public funding; and

WHEREAS, some California charter school organizations like Learn4Life and Inspire, that have more than 500 employees, have accessed multiple PPP loans totaling millions of dollars; and

WHEREAS, charter schools appear to be the only publicly funded entities to request and receive PPP loans; and

WHEREAS, a study by the National Community Reinvestment Coalition found Black business owners were more likely to be hindered in seeking coronavirus financial aid than their white peers; and
WHEREAS, a nationwide survey conducted by Color of Change and Unidos US, found that only 12 percent of Black and Latinx business owners who applied for federal small business loans received the full amount of their requested relief; and

WHEREAS, charter school extraction of both public education funds and PPP loans intended for small businesses may have led to the inaccessibility of loans to members of our communities who desperately needed the funds and for whom the funds were intended; and

WHEREAS, California schools—including charter schools—were funded with the express intent of maintaining employees, these loans may have been entered into fraudulently;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the NAACP request the California Attorney General to investigate charter school organizations that received PPP loans to determine whether any of them were entered into fraudulently, and whether or not the money is being spent in accordance with the law.

13. Automatic Arrest Expungement Cleared

SPONSORED BY: NAACP Ventura County Branch

WHEREAS blacks are more likely to be subjected to institutionalized racism primarily males are stopped, detained and arrested, law enforcement create and file felony charges. This practice is common in underserved, disproportion black and brown communities, and

WHEREAS informal interactions between law enforcement and the black and brown community are frequent due to stop-and-question and stop-and-search law enforcement practices, which result in an arrest and felony/misdemeanor charges filed.

WHEREAS nonviolent offenses violent / minor misdemeanor offenses and alternative felony/misdemeanor are charged at a higher level. The discretion of wobble charges serves as a
mechanism to imprison innocent black and brown community into the criminal justice system for crimes they did not commit, and

WHEREAS a person who have been arrested and was not convicted now has the burden to petition the court for the expungement. Cost associate to remove the arrest record and expunge it is expensive and excessive for people of color.

WHEREAS expungement is a legitimate value for employment purposes, a person may not have the means to afford the cost to expungement.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVE the NAACP demands the immediate removal of any records of an arrest for innocent black and brown men and women that are disproportionately impact by this action and practices set forth by law enforcement, prosecutors, and judges.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the NAACP work with the Department of Justice, civil rights groups, and communities to develop an automatic free expungement policy and to support legislation introduced to seal all non-violent crimes.

14. RESOLUTION NAMING OF PORT CHICAGO

SUBMITTED BY: San Jose/Silicon Valley NAACP

WHEREAS, Port Chicago disaster was a deadly munitions explosion that occurred on July 17, 1944, at the Port Chicago Naval Magazine in Port Chicago, California, United States. Munitions detonated while being loaded onto a cargo vessel bound for the Pacific Theater of Operations, killing 320 sailors and civilians and injuring 390 others. Approximately two-thirds of the dead and injured were enlisted African American sailors.
WHEREAS, as a month later, unsafe conditions inspired hundreds of servicemen to refuse to load munitions, an act known as the Port Chicago Mutiny. Fifty men—called the "Port Chicago 50"—were convicted of mutiny and sentenced to 15 years of prison and hard labor, as well as a dishonorable discharge. Forty-seven of the 50 were released in January 1946; the remaining three served additional months in prison.

WHEREAS, During and after the trial, questions were raised about the fairness and legality of the court-martial proceedings. Owing to public pressure, the United States Navy reconvened the courts-martial board in 1945; the court affirmed the guilt of the convicted men.

WHEREAS, Widespread publicity surrounding the case turned it into a cause célèbre among certain Americans; it and other race-related Navy protests of 1944–45 led the Navy to change its practices and initiate the desegregation of its forces beginning in February 1946.

WHEREAS, In 1994, the Port Chicago Naval Magazine National Memorial was dedicated to the lives lost in the disaster.

WHEREAS, The Port Chicago Naval Magazine National Memorial is a memorial dedicated in 1994 recognizing the dead of the Port Chicago disaster, and the critical role played by Port Chicago, California during World War II, in serving as the main facility for the Pacific Theater of Operations. The memorial is located at the Concord Naval Weapons Station near Concord, California, in the United States.

WHEREAS, Port Chicago was racially segregated, and the African American sailors, shut out of combat roles, were stuck with the dangerous task of moving bombs and ammunition onto the ships.

WHEREAS, Thurgood Marshall, then the chief special counsel for the NAACP, went to California to observe the Chicago 50 trial. “This is not an individual case,” he said. “This is not 50 men on trial for mutiny. This is the Navy on trial for its whole vicious policy toward Negroes.”

WHEREAS, Mutiny is a 1999 television drama film based on the story of the Port Chicago disaster during World War II where 50 African-American sailors were accused of mutiny because they declined to continue loading munitions after an explosion caused by failures in training and management.

WHEREAS, Naval Weapons Station (NWS) Concord (also known as Naval Weapons Station Seal Beach Detachment, Concord) is a 12,800-acre area located in north-central Contra Costa County, California. It was originally established in 1942 and is one of the oldest naval ordnance
support bases on the Pacific Coast. Historically, activities were linked to those at Mare Island Naval Shipyard and the Port Chicago Naval Ammunition Depot and included the loading and unloading of large quantities of weapons and equipment from ships.

WHEREAS, the area by the height of World War II in 1944, the U.S. Navy had acquired all the property that would become the NWS Concord. As the base developed, ordnance operations were centralized in the "Tidal Area" and administration and support activities were gradually relocated to the “Inland Area.” NWS Concord is composed of these two geographically separate units, the Inland (5,170 acres) and Tidal (7,630 acres) Areas, plus a 1-acre radiography facility in Pittsburgh, California. The Tidal Area continues to function as a major ammunition transshipment port on the West Coast for the Department of Defense (DoD) and is operated by the U.S. Army as Military Ocean Terminal Concord (MOTCO).

WHEREAS, Tidal Area” and administration and support activities are located the “Inland Area.” NWS Concord is composed of these two geographically separate units, the Inland (5,170 acres) and Tidal (7,630 acres) Areas, plus a 1-acre radiography facility in Pittsburgh, California. Be Named

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the California Hawaii NAACP supports and will call the California Legislative Black Caucus, (LBC) Tidal Area" be named the Port Chicago Dori Miller Regional Park.  Doris "Dorie" was an American Sailor in the United States Navy. He manned anti-aircraft guns during the attack on Pearl Harbor on December 7, 1941, for which he had no training, and tended to the wounded. He was recognized by the Navy for his actions and awarded the Navy Cross. He was the first black American to be awarded the Navy Cross, the second highest decoration for valor awarded by the Navy, after the Medal of Honor.

15. RESOLUTION END MONEY BAIL BONDS

SUBMITTED BY:  San Jose/Silicon Valley NAACP

WHEREAS, the use of money bail bonds has increased significantly over the past two decades; and

WHEREAS, the most common reason why people are held in prison or jail pretrial is their inability to afford to pay bail; and

WHEREAS, between 1996 and 2014 the number of jail inmates awaiting trial in the U.S. (not convicted of a crime) grew by 59 percent; and
WHEREAS, approximately 60% of California’s 75K+ jail inmates are awaiting trial (have not been convicted of a crime); and

WHEREAS, increases in the money bail requirement disproportionately affects low-income people and racial and ethnic minorities in our country; and

WHEREAS, African-Americans ages 18 through 29 receive significantly higher bail amounts than all other defendants and are less likely to be released on their own recognizance than white defendants; and

WHEREAS, monetary bail amounts for minor infractions, misdemeanors, or felonies usually do not take into consideration a defendant’s ability to pay in many jurisdictions across the United States; and

WHEREAS, suspects who cannot afford bail are left to languish in prison or jail for days, weeks, or sometimes even months until their trials, placing additional pressure and the resulting unintended consequences on low-income people who risk losing their jobs, their homes, or more; and

WHEREAS, many Americans take a plea bargain and plead guilty (even if they are innocent) merely to get out of jail because they cannot afford the bail; and

WHEREAS, the money bail system imposes a massive financial constraint on government budgets, as pretrial detention is estimated to cost state and local governments an estimated $14 billion each year in the U.S.; and

WHEREAS, alternatives to bail include various pretrial services such as drug rehabilitation and various forms of supervision such as GPS monitoring, drug tests, check-ins, and court call reminders; and

WHEREAS, alternatives to money bail can be found in Washington, DC and in the Federal Court system, where money bail has been effectively eliminated; and

WHEREAS, a study from the Administrative Office of the United States Courts found that pretrial detention for a defendant was nearly 10 times more expensive than the cost of supervision of a defendant by a pretrial services officer in the federal system;
THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the California/Hawaii NAACP call on all County district attorney’s office work to evaluate and divert those needing behavioral health services if they have been arrested on low-level offenses related to poverty, addiction, mental illness and homelessness; and

THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that, the California/Hawaii NAACP urges the California Legislative Black Caucus, each County and municipality to adopt the Federal Bail System, to include various pretrial services such as drug rehabilitation and various forms of supervision such as drug tests, check-ins, and court call reminders in lieu of money bail.

16. RESOLUTION LAW ENFORCEMENT REFORM, HATE CRIMES AND DOMESTIC TERRORISM

SUBMITTED BY: San Jose/Silicon Valley NAACP

WHEREAS, the next Attorney General will take office at a time of great challenges to American society and California’s criminal justice system, in particular.

WHEREAS, the Arc promotes and protects the human rights of people with intellectual and developmental disabilities and actively supports their full inclusion and participation in the community throughout their lifetimes.

WHEREAS, the California/Hawaii NAACP supports with The Arc California and with legislators including, but certainly not limited to, the Asian Pacific Islander, Black, Jewish, Latino, LGBTQ and Women’s Caucuses, to craft and enact legislation in 2021 addressing the urgent, overlapping issues of: law enforcement reform and accountability; and hate crime and domestic terrorism prevention and response.

WHEREAS, the California/Hawaii NAACP & The Arc California Provide the Commission on Peace Officer Standards and Training with the Department of Justice’s expert assistance with the commission’s major, vital responsibilities for improving and enforcing standards and training concerning use of force, hate crimes and domestic terrorism, and use your influence as Attorney General and a member of the commission to assure that it continues to prioritize these responsibilities.
WHEREAS, the California/Hawaii NAACP & The Arc California Urge next Attorney General to use his/hers existing authority to help reform law enforcement, including, but not limited to, by providing more transparency of records of officer bias and misconduct and ensuring officer accountability.

WHEREAS, Attorney General to use his/hers existing authority to help provide Californians with much better protection from hate crimes and domestic terrorism. Specifically, that you:

(A) Inform all local law enforcement agencies that have adopted or amended hate crime policies since January 1, 2019, or that adopt or amend their policies in the future, of the requirement of Penal Code Section 422.87(a) that their policies comply with PC 422.87(a) and 13519.6(c), including by incorporating the content of the Commission on Peace Officer Standards and Training (POST) model hate crime policy dated July 8, 2019, which is based on those sections.

(B) Inform all state law enforcement agencies of the requirement of PC 13519.6(c) that they adopt the POST model policy.

(C) Ask all other local law enforcement agencies that they, too, adopt the POST model policy or develop their own policies that comply with those sections.

BE IT RESOLVED, California Attorney General work to implementing the recommendations to the Department of Justice in the State Auditor’s 2018 report, “Hate Crimes in California: Law Enforcement Has Not Adequately Identified, Reported or Responded to Hate Crimes,” and

THEREFORE, BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED to have your staff meet with us and other representatives of the most affected communities regularly to share information and views on these issues and provide mutual support for achieving the goals we share. This would require a change in Department of Justice policy to allow open, two-way-street communication and partnership between the department and the communities we represent, to include following the model used by the Attorney General and the FBI.
17. RESOLUTION ON TEMPORARILY CHANGING HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION REQUIREMENT DUE TO THE ONGOING PANDEMIC

SUBMITTED BY: San Jose/Silicon Valley NAACP

WHEREAS: On March 13, 2020, the state of California along with the rest of the country, went into lockdown, in order to fight the spread of COVID-19; and

WHEREAS: The lockdown resulted in California’s 1.7 million high school students to be suddenly thrust into learning online. Part of the total of 15.3 million students nationwide; and

WHEREAS: This resulted in the curtailment or cancelation of support programs and extracurricular activities for these students; and

WHEREAS: The move to distance learning has had a severe impact on the mental health of students and families, especially amongst Black, poor and people of color; and

WHEREAS: The move to online/distance learning has brought to national attention, the inequities in education that the NAACP has been sounding the alarm about for decades; and

WHEREAS: The move to online/distance learning has increased awareness of the inequities in access to internet service and internet ready devices, that the NAACP has been addressing for years; and

WHEREAS: As of October, 2020 California, State Superintendent of Public Instruction Tony Thurmond stated that up to 1 million students could be lacking either computers or internet access needed to participate in distance learning. In June, the New Jersey Department of Education estimated that up to 100,000 students lacked access to broadband internet. North Carolina estimates that estimates that out of the 1.5 million K-12 students, 468,967 (30 percent) do not have a reliable internet connection suitable for remote learning and 355,304 (23 percent) do not have adequate devices for remote learning; and

WHEREAS: Nationally, approximately 82 percent of white adults own a computer. However, 58 percent of Black adults and 57 percent Hispanic adults own a computer. 79 percent of white adults have broadband access at home, compared to 66 percent of Black and 61 percent Hispanic adults. Disturbingly, 26 percent of LatinX students, 30 percent of Black students, and 35 percent of Native
American students lack the necessary connectivity for remote learning; and

WHEREAS: The California legislative analyst office has stated that even those households that access to broadband at speeds high enough for some video calls, it’s often still not enough when multiple kids and adults are all using the network. Many low-income families in urban areas and many rural regions still are completely unconnected. At least 263,000 households without internet access are in urban areas and 227,000 unconnected households are in rural areas; and

WHEREAS: The move to online/ distance learning has seen a dramatic rise in D’s and F’s especially amongst Black and LatinX students; and

WHEREAS: The use of online /distance learning has led to an increase in absenteeism, due to lack of access or increased household responsibilities. Many Black, low income and students of color have also had to seek employment due to parental job loss. The loss of support programs and extracurricular arts and athletic programs which were prime motivators for students to attend school has also contributed to the increase in absenteeism; and

WHEREAS: Due to circumstances beyond their control, students who were already behind academically are now faced with further academic decline which threatens their graduation. It is estimated that students could lose three to four months of learning if they received average remote instruction and seven to 11 months with lower quality remote instruction. Lower income students, Black and Hispanic students — those less likely to have a quiet space with minimal distractions, devices they do not need to share and parental academic supervision — would suffer the biggest losses; and

WHEREAS: In this current economic upheaval, state, county, and local education authorities lack the resources to implement the rigorous remedial programs necessary to address the academic disruption.

WHEREAS: The State of California adjusts graduation requirements for other groups (e.g., military, justice involved, foster youth, and unsheltered) experiencing hardships unique to their groups;”

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: that the California/Hawaii State Conference NAACP call for the temporary adjustment of the graduation requirements for those graduating classes that will be adversely affected by the pandemic. Specifically, the Freshmen cohort of 2020 and 2024. If the
pandemic continues and necessitates another year of online/distance learning, then the class of 2025 may also be included.

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:** That the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) recommend that this be done by reducing the number of classes or credits necessary to graduate. Also, that this change will apply only to these specific graduating classes (2023, 2024 and possibly 2025); and

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:** That colleges and universities throughout the country make allowances in admissions for those students in the affected graduating classes; and

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:** That the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) finds that Federal, State, County and local officials would be negligent, in their duty to provide for the general welfare of their citizens if they do not act on this issue; and

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED,** that the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) call for each of its branches to call upon Federal, state, county and local representatives to urge them to swiftly act on this issue to provide equity to Black, poor, and students of color.

**THEREFORE, BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED,** that the California/Hawaii State Conference NAACP call for each of its members to contact their Federal, state, county, and local officials to undertake these measures.

**18. NAACP URGES GOVERNOR GAVIN NEWSOM TO MAKE A RATIONAL DECISION: APPOINT AN AFRICAN AMERICAN WOMAN TO U. S. SENATE SEAT**

WHEREAS: United States Senator Kamala Harris has been elected as Vice President of the United States along with President Joe Biden, and Whereas California Governor Gavin Newson will make an appointment to fill the seat of Senator Kamala Harris, and

WHEREAS: most African American women in California voted for Governor Gavin Newsom and have been underrepresented in federal office from California and in the U. S. Senate, and
WHEREAS: there are still approximately two and a half years left on Senator Harris’ term and there are currently two African American males in the U. S. Senate, three Asian American members, four Latino members, and

WHEREAS: no African American woman will be in the U.S. Senate after Senator Harris’ departure to the Office of Vice President,

BE IT RESOLVED, that the African American Community is underrepresented when it comes to an African American woman in the U.S. Senate, and

Be it further resolved that California seeks a rational decision that will result in Equity for African American women, since 91 percent of those black women voting in our country’s most recent election helped vote for President Joe Biden and Vice President Kamala Harris

Be it further resolved that California-Hawaii NAACP urges California Governor Gavin Newsom to make a rational decision to appoint an African American Woman to replace U.S. Senator Kamala Harris

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that a duly prepared copy of this resolution be given to Governor Gavin Newson

Rick Callender, Esq.  LaJuana J. Bivens

________________________________________  ______________________________________
RICK CALLENDER, STATE PRESIDENT  LAJUANA J. BIVENS, STATE SECRETARY