



February 19, 2024

Open Letter to the White House

Dear President Biden,

As a diverse coalition of congressional leaders, civil society organizations, and public figures, we pen this open letter with a sense of urgency and a call for action that echoes the sentiments of millions nationwide. We represent a broad spectrum of American society, united by the common goal of achieving racial equity and reparative justice while increasing our ability to celebrate our shared humanity.

Our collective history requires us to make right the wrongs of the past and present, forging a future where equity and justice are lived realities for all. For far too long, the scars and trauma of racial inequity have marred the United States. The time for change and action is now.

In recent months, the U.S. Congress has introduced critical legislation addressing the systemic inequities entrenched in our society. We call upon the White House to lend its considerable power to these causes. **We ask for executive actions and executive orders aligning with and supporting these legislative efforts to achieve racial equity and reparative justice.**

Executive actions and executive orders would ensure these bills receive the attention they need to pass swiftly and with the backing they deserve. Mr. President, we invite **you** to join a scheduled meeting with congressional sponsors to discuss strategic pathways for advancing this critical agenda before the 2024 national election.

These legislative efforts are not just about making amends; they are about building a stronger, more inclusive, and more democratic America:

- [H.R. 14](#): John. R. Lewis Voting Rights Advancement Act of 2023 to restore and strengthen the Voting Rights Act of 1965, including requiring Federal approval before certain jurisdictions enact changes to voting laws



- [H.R. 1255 / S. 3257](#): Sgt. Isaac Woodard, Jr. and Sgt. Joseph H. Maddox GI Bill Restoration Act of 2023 to extend to Black veterans of World War II, surviving spouses, and certain direct descendants eligibility for certain housing loans and educational assistance
- [H.R. 40 / S. 40](#): The Commission to Study and Develop Reparation Proposals and Recommendations for African Americans Act
- [H.Con.Res. 44 / S.Con.Res 19](#): Urging the establishment of a U.S. Commission on Truth, Racial Healing and Transformation
- [H.Res.532](#): Third Reconstruction: Fully addressing poverty and low wages from the bottom up
- [H.Res.414](#): Recognizing that the United States has a moral and legal obligation to provide reparations for the enslavement of Africans and its lasting harm on the lives of millions of Black people in the US
- [H.R. 2952](#): The Restoring Artistic Protection Act of 2023 amends the Federal Rules of Evidence to limit the admissibility of evidence of a defendant's creative or artistic expression against such defendant and for other purposes.
- [H.Res.1392](#): Recognizing "Banned Books Week"
- [H.R. 4699](#): The People's Response Act to establish within the Department of Health and Human Services a Division on Community Safety
- [H.Res.988](#): Equity for All Resolution to adopt a "zero tolerance" approach to racial inequity, expressed through policy and practice through utilization of the Equity or Else Platform

The suite of legislation above is historic and requires robust support and decisive executive action to move from potential to reality.

As we face another election year, this conversation regarding urgent executive action is not just about policy—it is about the people of the United States of America, the fate of our democracy, national unity, and national security.

Together, we stand ready to support and engage in the work ahead. With your leadership, we can turn the tide of history. We can begin to heal the past and present wounds and move forward with a shared vision of an America that truly embodies the ideals of liberty, justice, equity, and equality for all. Together, we can reap the shared dividends of solidarity and common purpose.



This is a defining moment for our nation. Let us rise to meet it with courage, commitment, and a spirit of collaboration.

Sincerely,

[Signatories]

Black Music Action Coalition

United By Equity

National Black Justice Coalition

Why We Can't Wait Coalition

National Action Network

Until Freedom

Freedom Road, LLC

National Black Cultural Information Trust, Inc

BeeLine Productions

New Life Presbyterian Church

Advocacy for Distress Homeowners and Tenants

Sanctuary of Hope LA

Vote Your Power Back

Gifted Arts and Activism

CASA Los Angeles

Reclaim Roxbury

Reparations Interfaith Coalition

New England N'COBRA Chapter

Project Access To AFreeKa

Reparations4slavery

Mikayla's House of Hope

UpTogether

First Presbyterian Church of Lansing, MI

Reparation Education Project, Inc.

Glendale-Crescenta V.O.I.C.E.



Tulsa African Ancestral Society  
Boston Workers Circle  
L.A.M.P.S.  
Clean, Healthy, Educated, Safe & Sustainable, Inc.  
Coming Together Virginia  
LMU Loyola Law School Anti-Racism Center  
Human Rights Watch  
Presbyterian Mission Agency  
Balanta B'urassa History and Genealogy Society in America  
DC Chapter for Reparations  
AAPI New Jersey  
Presbyterian Church (USA) RE&WIM  
Center for the Repair of Historical Harms, Presbyterian Church (USA)  
Not In Our Town Princeton, NJ  
Human Rights Watch  
Bend The Arc: Jewish Action  
Church World Service  
L'chaim! Jews Against the Death Penalty  
Justice League of Greater Lansing Michigan  
Freekind  
New York Day of Remembrance Committee  
MyVoice LLC  
Progressive Democrats of America (PDA)  
Campbell AME Church, Washington DC  
Beyond Apology (TULSA, OK)  
Reparations Finance Lab  
Get Free  
San Francisco Black and Jewish Unity Coalition  
Hampton Roads CCD Local Network  
Westside NAACP  
Equal Justice USA  
Disability Rights Education & Defense Fund  
Sojourners-SojoAction



Japanese Peruvian Oral History Project  
Japanese American Citizens League, Berkeley Chapter  
The Revival MN  
African American Redress Network  
National LGBTQ Task Force Action Fund  
National LGBT Cancer Network  
Campaign For Justice: Redress NOW for Japanese Latin Americans!  
ALEPH: Alliance for Jewish Renewal  
All Souls Movement  
Institute for Justice and Democracy in Haiti  
Black Culture Weekly  
The Greenbelt Commission on Reparations  
Earn The Black Vote Collaborative  
Reparations United  
Fund For Reparations NOW!  
DA Global Seniors Caucus  
People's Organization for Progress  
Democrats Abroad Global Reparations Task Force  
Democrats Abroad Global Progressive Caucus  
United Church of Christ  
Virago Strategies  
Decolonizing Wealth Project  
Association on American Indian Affairs  
Japanese American Citizens Leagues, Twin Cities Chapter  
American Humanist Association  
Racial Justice Coalition  
National Hispanic Media Coalition  
National Collaborative for Health Equity  
Sojourners  
Showing Up for Racial Justice - San Francisco  
Showing Up for Racial Justice NYC  
Marijuana Justice  
Japanese American Citizens League (JACL)



## ADVANCEMENT PROJECT

Section IX:Psychoanalysis for Social Responsibility

Japanese American National Museum

Human Rights Watch

Solidarity Society

Nikkei Progressives

Unitarian Universalists for Social Justice

National Council of Churches

NETWORK Lobby for Catholic Social Justice

Rebel Noires

Incarcerated Nation Network

National Consumers League

Next Generation Action Network

Collaborating Voices Foundation

San Jose Nikkei Resisters

LaMay Day

My New Red Shoes

Tree of Life Child and Family Services

Black Lives Matter- Elizabeth NJ

Solar Plex Physical Therapy

National Nikkei Reparations Coalition

LIFT Inc

Malcolm X Grassroots Movement

Johnson & Klein Law

Racial Justice Foundation d/b/a Vermont Racial Justice

Restorative Actions

Breaking Generational Cycles

Y.U.R.W.I (Youth, Urban, Reading & Writing Initiative

Joanne M. Braxton Institute for Sustainability, Resiliency and Joy

Maywood Youth Mentoring

Jamaine Wells LLC

Let us build and get this done in now!

Malcolm X Center for Self Determination



Mary Hoch Center for Reconciliation  
Y.U.R.W.I. (Youth. Urban. Reading & Writing Initiative)  
N'cobra  
Tsuru For Solidarity  
Ubuntu National & International Trade/Travel & Education (UNITE)  
ASALH  
National Coalition of Blacks for Reparations in America  
Chicago N'COBRA Chapter  
The Taifa Group  
Racial Unity Team  
Geri's Place and Family Services  
Sankofa For Kansas City  
African Cultural and Development Association  
California Black Power Network  
Government of the UNIA-ACL • RC2020  
Reparations4Slavery  
Advocating 4 Kids Inc  
GLMA: Health Professionals Advancing LGBTQ+ Equality  
Waves Ahead Puerto Rico Corp  
MiGen - Michigan LGBTQ+ Elders Network  
Rainbow Connections ATX, a program of Family Eldercare  
ZEAL  
FORGE, Inc.  
AIDS United  
Lawyers for Good Government  
The Woman of God's Design  
Alaska Rainbow Elders  
Sha'ar Zahav  
North Dakota Human Rights Coalition  
Gay Elder Circle  
Transathlete  
Engaged Detroit  
National Parents Union



Family Equality

Unitarian Universalists for Social Justice

Nollie Jenkins Family Center, Inc.

Equality Federation













