

Dear friends of the 15th Suffolk District,

This last week has been devastating, especially from the perspective of racial justice. Rep Nika has been in close conversations with colleagues about the impact of George Floyd and the opportunity to demonstrate the power of collaborative leadership.

The Massachusetts Black and Latino Legislative Caucus and other elected officials of color from across the state joined together on Tuesday, June 2nd, to speak directly to the pain and injustice facing our communities and to advocate for police accountability and reform. You can view a video of the press conference [here](#).



Elected officials of color from every level of government presented a 10 point plan to combat systemic racism in policing and police brutality. You can view the plan below and read more information on the MA Black and Latino Legislative Caucus [website](#).

Credit for the graphics below goes to the **Office of Councilor Julia Mejia**! Additionally we would like to shout out the **African American Coalition Committee (AACC)**, a group of "inside the wall" advocates incarcerated at MCI Norfolk. Rep Nika and Isabel work closely with the AACC, who drafted the original bill to establish the Commission on Structural Racism referenced in priority #7.

The Massachusetts Elected Officials of Color

Ten Point Plan

FEDERAL

1

Pass Congresswoman Pressley's Resolution to condemn police brutality, racial profiling and the excessive use of force.

2

Improve oversight and independent investigations to hold individual law enforcement officers and police departments accountable.

3

Department of Justice must reassert its statutory authority to investigate individual instances of racial profiling, police brutality and violence and investigate and litigate individual law enforcement officers and police departments routinely violating civil rights.

4

Adopt sound and unbiased law enforcement policies at all levels of government that reduce the disparate impact of police brutality, racial profiling and use of force on Black and Brown people and other historically marginalized communities.

STATE

5

Resolve to provide for a "Special Commission on Peace Officer Standards and Training" to study and make recommendations concerning the implementation of a statewide Peace Officers Standards and Training (POST) system that certifies police officers and enable de-certification for misconduct and abuse. (H2146 by Rep. Holmes and Vieira)

6

Pass H2292 by Rep. Holmes that establishes an Office of Diversity and Equal Opportunity to establish guidelines and review for diversity plans for all state agencies, establishes a peace officer exam advisory board to review examinations for appointment and promotion of peace officers.

7

Pass H1440 by Rep. Holmes that Establishes a commission to study how the systemic presence of institutional racism has created a culture of structural racial inequality which has exacerbated disproportionate minority contact with the criminal justice system in Massachusetts.

8

Adopt clear statutory limits on police use of force, including choke-holds and other tactics known to have deadly consequences, require independent investigation of officer-related deaths, and require data collection and reporting on race, regarding all arrests and police use of force by every department. (Bill to be filed by Rep. Liz Miranda soon.)

MUNICIPAL

9

Declare that Racism is a Public Health Crisis and worthy of treatment, assessment and financial investment in order to eradicate negative health impacts.

10

Create a Civil Review Board/Commission with subpoena power to investigate allegations of law enforcement wrongdoing.



For your easy access, you can view previous updates here:

- (1) **Summary of Governor's Phase One Re-opening Timeline**, and
- (2) **Filed COVID Legislation Update** (Last Updated on May 8th)

For constituents, advocates, or anyone else looking to get in touch, you can reach the office at **617-722-2582**, or **isabel.torres@mahouse.gov**!

You can follow us on social media on **Facebook**, **Twitter**, and **Instagram**.

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