



November 2, 2021

Dear Madame Speaker:

We are writing to share with you the Congressional Black Caucus' position on the role of faith-based providers using government funds to provide services to the American people. The CBC unanimously passed a resolution on this matter twenty years ago during the 107th Congress, which reads in part:

“... the CBC believes that the federal government should continue to harness the power of faith-based organizations in tackling social ills such as drug addiction, juvenile violence, and homelessness through funding partnerships with such organizations which augment, not replace, government programs, which respect the First Amendment and which do not use taxpayer funds to proselytize or support discrimination...”

A copy of the complete resolution by the Caucus is attached.

The CBC remains committed to this position. The Build Back Better Act must not allow government-funded discrimination—in employment or in the provision of services to participants—in publicly funded programs. We believe that allowing such discrimination financed with public funds collected from all taxpayers is wrong. We are asking you to oppose any effort to remove or change the nondiscrimination provisions included in the childcare and universal preschool provisions of the Build Back Better Act as they appeared in the Rules Committee Print, as well as any effort to expand exemptions from civil rights laws for religious providers that would permit any discrimination with public funds.

We appreciate your consideration of the Caucus' position as the legislation moves forward.

Sincerely,

Joyce Beatty
Chair

Robert C. “Bobby” Scott
Member of Congress

Attachment



Congressional Black Caucus of the United States Congress

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107th Congress

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

July 18, 2001

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CBC OPPOSES H.R. 7 – *A Measure That Violates the Civil Rights Act*

(Washington, DC) -- The Congressional Black Caucus (CBC) submitted the following resolution in opposition to H.R. 7, the Community Solutions Act:

WHEREAS, the Congressional Black Caucus (CBC) recognizes that faith-based and community-based organizations have always been at the forefront in combating the hardships facing families and communities; and

WHEREAS, the CBC believes that the federal government should continue to harness the power of faith-based organizations in tackling social ills such as drug addiction, juvenile violence, and homelessness through funding partnerships with such organizations which augment, not replace, government programs, which respect the First Amendment and which do not use taxpayer funds to proselytize or support discrimination; and

WHEREAS, H.R. 7, the Community Solutions Act directly funds pervasively sectarian organizations and allows such organizations to discriminate in hiring individuals to work in programs funded with government money;

BE IT RESOLVED that the Congressional Black Caucus hereby expresses its opposition to H.R. 7, the Community Solutions Act.

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