

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

MASSACHUSETTS BLACK AND LATINO LEGISLATIVE CAUCUS

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THE MA BLACK AND LATINO CAUCUS SECURES 4 CORE POLICE ACCOUNTABILITY REFORMS IN HOUSE LEGISLATION

BOSTON – On June 2, 2020 the Massachusetts Black and Latino Legislative Caucus (MBLLC) stood alongside other Massachusetts elected officials of color as they called for reforms to police standards and accountability. The 10-point plan shared on June 2nd included 4 MBLLC championed state level reforms, all 4 of which were included in legislation passed by the Massachusetts House of Representatives on Friday July 24th.

“This legislation only begins to address the systemic changes necessary to bring about the racial justice that our communities have been yearning for. The inclusions of our 4 core legislative priorities passed by the House on Friday shows what is possible when you listen to communities of color and allow them to lead,” stated MBLLC Chairman Representative Carlos González (D – Springfield). He continued, “None of this would have been possible without valuable input from each member of the Caucus. In the end, it was a firm and united Massachusetts Black and Latino Legislative Caucus demand for change that led to this historical vote to pass this legislation.”

The core priorities championed for and secured by the MBLLC included:

- Creation of a Peace Officers Standards and Training (POST) system, with an independent oversight and investigatory body, that allows for certification and decertification of law enforcement
- Establishment of clear statutory limits and uniform guidelines regarding use of excessive force, and establishing a duty to intervene
- Establishment of a commission for comprehensive civil service review
- Establishment of a commission on structural racism

The MBLLC looks forward to continuing to work with leadership on dismantling structural racism in the Commonwealth and addressing other systemic issues that have proven to be barriers to advancement for communities of color.

The Massachusetts Black and Latino Legislative Caucus is a group of state legislators seeking to define, highlight and analyze those issues and concerns affecting people of color in the Commonwealth. For more information, please visit: www.mablacklatinocaucus.com

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