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MELANIE CAMPBELL, PRESIDENT & CEO OF THE NATIONAL COALITION ON BLACK CIVIC PARTICIPATION APPLAUDS THE PASSING OF THE HISTORIC ‘GEORGE FLOYD JUSTICE IN POLICING ACT’

Washington, DC (June 26, 2020) – Today, the House of Representatives passed the historic George Floyd Justice in Policing Act (Justice in Policing), led and introduced by the Congressional Black Caucus. The act represents “a comprehensive approach to hold police accountable, end racial profiling, change the culture of law enforcement, empower our communities, and build trust between law enforcement and our communities by addressing systemic racism and bias to help save lives.”

On June 8th, the National Coalition on Black Civic Participation (NCBCP) organized and hosted a National Black Leadership Virtual Briefing on the Justice in Policing legislation, in partnership with several national Black civil rights and women’s rights organizations. The briefing included a special presentation by several Congressional Black Caucus (CBC) members including CBC chair, Congresswoman Karen Bass, Senator Cory Booker, Member, U. S. Senate Judiciary Committee, Senator Kamala Harris, Member, U. S. Senate Judiciary Committee. The briefing was co-hosted by the Black Women’s Roundtable, 100 Black Men of America APRI, LCCRUL, NAN, NAACP, NAACP LDF, NUL, National African American Clergy Network, NCNW and Power Rising.

Today, Melanie L. Campbell, President & CEO, NCBCP and Convener, Black Women’s Roundtable (BWR), praised the passing of the George Floyd Justice in Policing Act and states, “The NCBCP and BWR believes the ‘George Floyd Justice in Policing Act’ will be a major first step in addressing the historic systemic racism in law enforcement that has been perpetrated against Black people since policing was formed in the 19th Century, in the form of ‘slave patrols’ in the South. We believe the recent, unjust killing of George Floyd, Breonna Taylor and Rayshard Brooks at the hands of police officers, has sparked a long overdue national outcry, especially among young people of all races, ages and backgrounds----in a call for elected officials to take swift and decisive action by passing comprehensive federal policing reform now. We must seize this moment to enact transformative policies that focuses on eradicating systemic racism, implicit bias and excessive force by law enforcement that has adversely impacted the lives and livelihood of Black Americans for centuries. We now call upon members of the Senate to support and pass the ‘George Floyd Justice in Policing Act.’ We must overcome partisanship and begin a nationwide process of changing the culture of policing that truly ‘serves and protects’ all people equally and fairly.”

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The National Coalition on Black Civic Participation (NCBCP) is one of the most active civil rights and social justice organizations in the nation “dedicated to increasing civic engagement, economic and voter empowerment in Black America.” The Black Women’s Roundtable (BWR) is the women and girls empowerment arm of the NCBCP. At the forefront of championing just and equitable public policy on behalf of Black women, BWR promotes their health and wellness, economic security & prosperity, education and global empowerment as key elements for success. Black Youth Vote (BYV) is a national grassroots coalition of organizations and individuals committed to increasing political and civic engagement among Black youth and young adults between the ages of 18 to 35.