



June 24, 2020

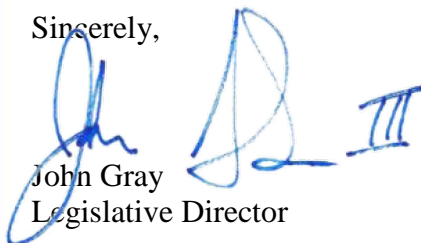
Dear Senator:

On behalf of the 2 million members of the Service Employees International Union (SEIU), I write to urge you to oppose and vote no on the motion to proceed on S. 3985, the Just and Unifying Solutions to Invigorate Communities Everywhere (JUSTICE) Act. The JUSTICE Act is a woefully inadequate response to the anti-Black violence at the hands of police officers and racist vigilantes. For too long, our nation has refused to address the historical trauma, discrimination, and bias embedded in our justice system that continues to leave Black people and other communities of color in danger. The JUSTICE Act's weak provisions and failure to meaningfully change the way law enforcement institutions operate make this bill nothing other than a cosmetic attempt to respond to the loss of Black lives at the hands of police.

We must be focused and bold in our policy approach to truly changing our institutions to end anti-Black and systemic racism. The JUSTICE Act fails to meet the bare minimum standard for reform: it does nothing to address racial profiling that has plagued policing for centuries, nor does it include explicit bans on dangerous practices like chokeholds. Even worse, it fails to address the militarization of police or the need for a national standard restricting the use of force. As people from all walks of life have united in communities across the country to demand action from our elected leaders, the JUSTICE Act and its sponsors have failed to put together a legislative proposal to achieve structural change that would heal our communities and end anti-black racism in our society's institutions, including law enforcement.

In this moment of protest and action, we stand with the Movement for Black Lives to enact comprehensive reform needed to address the current policing crisis and achieve meaningful law enforcement accountability. The JUSTICE Act fails to truly take a strong policy approach to ending anti-black and systemic racism, and for these reasons we urge a no vote on the motion to proceed on the bill. If you have any questions, please contact Isaiah Wilson, SEIU's Senior Legislative Manager, at [isaiah.wilson@seiu.org](mailto:isaiah.wilson@seiu.org) or (202)- 738-6359.

Sincerely,

  
John Gray  
Legislative Director

MARY KAY HENRY  
International President

GERRY HUDSON  
International Secretary-Treasurer

NEAL BISNO  
Executive Vice President

LUISA BLUE  
Executive Vice President

HEATHER CONROY  
Executive Vice President

LESLIE FRANE  
Executive Vice President

VALARIE LONG  
Executive Vice President

ROCIO SÁENZ  
Executive Vice President

SERVICE EMPLOYEES  
INTERNATIONAL UNION  
CTW, CLC

1800 Massachusetts Ave., NW  
Washington, DC 20036

202.730.7000

[www.SEIU.org](http://www.SEIU.org)

