



*Empowering Communities.
Changing Lives.*

June 22, 2020

Dear Senators:

On behalf of the National Urban League, and its 90 affiliates in urban communities across 36 states and the District of Columbia, we urge you to vote no on the motion to proceed to S. 3985, the Just and Unifying Solutions to Invigorate Communities Everywhere (JUSTICE) Act.

While there is no one-size-fits-all policy solution that will erase the impact of over 400 years of systemic racism in our criminal justice system, we need immediate change that will put an end to excessive policing and racial injustice in law enforcement. Meaningful reforms include: an end to the qualified immunity doctrine to hold police accountable, an end to discriminatory and abusive practices in policing by banning the use of chokeholds, no knock warrants, and racial profiling, a national police misconduct registry to hold police accountable for misconduct, an accreditation system for law enforcement agencies, and a national use of force standard. The JUSTICE Act includes none of these meaningful reforms and instead dances around the edges in a show of political posturing. In contrast, the George Floyd Justice in Policing Act includes these and other important reforms that will address persistent, unchecked racial bias in policing and the of lack of accountability that is wreaking havoc on the Black community and should be immediately considered and passed.

The National Urban League issued a 10-Point Plan on Police Reform in 2014, in the wake of Michael Brown's death in Ferguson and the multitude of murders of unarmed black men and women at the hands of law enforcement prior to that incident. Nearly 1,300 Black men and women have been fatally shot by police since then. Hundreds of thousands of people in cities across the country and globally have taken to the streets for almost a month to protest the murder of George Floyd at the hands of Minneapolis police and countless other victims. The JUSTICE Act is out of touch with this national movement against police violence and does not meet the moment before us to end racial injustice in policing once and for all.

We urge you to vote NO on the motion to proceed on the JUSTICE Act and oppose this legislation when it is brought to the Senate floor.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Marc H. Morial".

Marc H. Morial
President & CEO