



Blacks In Government®
2020 National Delegates Assembly
Virtual Meeting
RESOLUTION



BLACKS IN GOVERNMENT SUPPORTS THE LAW ENFORCEMENT REFORM LEGISLATION INTRODUCED IN THE U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES BY URGING ALL CONGRESSIONAL LEADERS IN BOTH THE U.S. SENATE AND HOUSE TO SUPPORT PASSAGE OF H.R.7120, GEORGE FLOYD JUSTICE IN POLICING ACT OF 2020, 116th CONGRESS (2019-2020)

WHEREAS, the National Organization of Blacks In Government (BIG), was incorporated in 1976, as a 501[c]3 non-profit organization to, educate and advocate on behalf of Federal, State and Municipal government employees and today, BIG seeks to represent 2.5 million public and private civil servants by continuing to address discrimination in the workplace and its effect on public service; and

WHEREAS, on June 8, 2020 H.R. 7120 was introduced in the 116th U.S. Congress (2019-2020) House of Representatives as the George Floyd Justice in Policing Act of 2020; and

WHEREAS, the bill addresses a wide range of policies and issues regarding policing practices and law enforcement accountability. It includes measures to increase accountability for law enforcement misconduct, to enhance transparency and data collection, and to eliminate discriminatory policing practices; and

WHEREAS, the bill facilitates federal enforcement of constitutional violations (e.g., excessive use of force) by state and local law enforcement. Among other requirements, it does the following:

- lowers the criminal intent standard from willful to knowing or reckless, to convict a law enforcement officer for misconduct in a federal prosecution,
- limits qualified immunity as a defense to liability in a private civil action against a law enforcement officer or state correctional officer, and
- authorizes the Department of Justice to issue subpoenas in investigations of police departments for a pattern or practice of discrimination.

WHEREAS, the bill also creates a national registry—the National Police Misconduct Registry—to compile data on complaints and records of police misconduct; and

WHEREAS, the bill establishes a framework to prohibit racial profiling at the federal, state, and local levels; and

WHEREAS, the bill establishes new requirements for law enforcement officers and agencies, including to report data on use-of-force incidents, to obtain training on implicit bias and racial profiling, and to wear body cameras; and

WHEREAS, Blacks In Government has been out front on parts of this legislation over previous years by adopting BIG National Resolutions calling for and supporting Congressional members seeking an end to Racial Profiling, instituting a National data base for tracking police abuse on black and brown citizens, and whistleblowing protections for good officers.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED;

In furtherance of its advocacy mission, BIG endorses passage of H.R.7120, the George Floyd Justice In Policing Act of 2020 in the 116th U.S Congress (<https://rb.gy/h96y5b> - Bill Summary) and request that:

- (1) The National President of Blacks In Government will write a letter to House of Representatives, the Honorable Nancy Pelosi, House Speaker thanking her for supporting passage of this legislation.
- (2) The National President of Blacks In Government will write the Chairman for the U.S. Senate, the Honorable Mitch McConnell asking him to support the provisions as stated in H.R. 7120, and
- (3) The National President of Blacks In Government will write the President of the United States asking him to sign the legislation, should both the Senate and House agree on a bipartisan version of this legislation.

Much of the language in this Resolution is verbatim from the Congress.Gov Website Summary page.

Submitted by:

Matthew F. Fogg

Dr. Matthew F. Fogg
Former BIG National 2nd Vice President
BIG Region XI - Heritage Chapter President
Chief Deputy United States Marshal, ret.
June 24, 2020



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**BIG HONORS SARAH HAYCOX FOR SPEARHEADING EARLY
LEARNING CENTER NAMED IN HONOR OF SLAIN CIVIL RIGHTS
LEADER "EDWIN T. PRATT"**

WHEREAS, the National Organization of Blacks In Government (BIG), was incorporated in 1976, as a 501[c]3 non-profit organization to, educate and advocate on behalf of Federal, State and Municipal government employees and today, BIG seeks to represent 2.5 million public and private civil servants by continuing to address discrimination in the workplace and its effect on public service; and

WHEREAS; Sarah Haycox, 11, was walking through a park in Shoreline, Washington, when she came across something curious: a stone with a plaque in tribute to "Edwin T. Pratt, 1930 to 1969"; and

WHEREAS; As CBS News [reported last year](#), there were no other markings, and no one was around to ask and so, Sarah took it upon herself to learn all she could about the life and death of Edwin Pratt; and

WHEREAS; Sarah learned Edwin T. Pratt was director of the Seattle Urban League and worked on school desegregation. She also learned he was the first black person to move into Sarah's town – which would be a bold and fatal decision because Pratt was assassinated on his front porch -- survived by his wife and children; and

WHEREAS; The Jim Crow era, from the late 19th century to the mid-20th century, made a mockery of the 15th Amendment. White supremacist terrorists carried out nearly 5,000 documented lynching's of Black American's -- to enforce their ideology; and

WHEREAS; Sarah noticed that across the street from her school, the district was putting up a new early learning center. She found out it didn't have a name and launched a petition drive and, went all over town explaining to anyone who would listen why the new building should be named after Edwin T. Pratt.

WHEREAS; Ultimately Sarah's tenacity and drive to gather support left the school board with no choice but to vote on her recommendation to name the newly constructed learning center after Edwin T. Pratt; and

WHEREAS; It's been less than a year since CBS News first told this story, and today, the Edwin Pratt Early Learning Center is open for business and Sarah recently took a tour with some Pratt relatives (photo attached) who flew in to meet her and rediscover their relative; and

WHEREAS; Edwin Pratt's family stated; "We as a family have gotten to know more about my uncle than I think we ever would have, had this not happened. And we can't ever thank you (Sarah) enough for that," one relative said; and

WHEREAS; Because of Sarah, there will never be another kid in Shoreline who doesn't know the name Edwin T. Pratt. Someday, if she keeps this up, everyone will also know the name Sarah Haycox to include Blacks In Government.

See CBS Story on <https://cbsn.ws/2WrBRbQ>

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED;

- (1) BIG will send a plaque costing no more than seventy-five dollars (\$75.00) and a letter to Sarah Haycox thanking her for honoring a fallen civil rights leader by spearheading a movement to have his name memorialized in the education of others through an Early Learning Center.
- (2) BIG National President will send a letter to the Pratt Family advising them of BIG's appreciation honoring Sarah Haycox for her tenacity and support to honor a slain civil rights leader, and
- (3) BIG National President will send an email letter to CBS 'On the Road' executive producer at OnTheRoad@cbsnews.com and reporter Steve Hartman advising of this BIG Resolution and thanking both for airing this story.

**Some of the language in this resolution is verbatim from CBS Steve Hartman's 'On The Road' News Story* <https://cbsn.ws/2WrBRbQ>*

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The Haycox Family

Submitted by:

Matthew F. Fogg

Dr. Matthew F. Fogg
Former BIG National 2nd Vice President
BIG Region XI - Heritage Chapter President
Chief Deputy United States Marshal, ret.
June 24, 2020



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RESOLUTION

**BIG CONDUCTS FEASIBILITY STUDY FOR EACH
MEMBER IN GOOD FINANCIAL STANDING TO VOTE ON
BIG NATIONAL ELECTED OFFICERS**

WHEREAS, the National Organization of Blacks In Government (BIG), was incorporated in 1976, as a 501[c]3 non-profit organization to, educate and advocate on behalf of Federal, State and Municipal government employees and today, BIG seeks to represent 2.5 million public and private civil servants by continuing to address discrimination in the workplace and its effect on public service; and

WHEREAS; BIG currently utilizes Delegates to vote the conscious of other dues paying members because they were not selected as a Delegate simply because in accordance to the BIG National Constitution, BIG chapters are only allowed a certain number of Delegates according to the number of chapter members; and

WHEREAS; BIG has over 5 Thousand dues paying members who would be eligible to vote in a normal democratic – every member voting system; and

WHEREAS; BIG voting delegates annually at Delegates Assembly usually amount to less than 10% of the entire BIG dues paying membership, and now we will be literally voting via virtual forums due to the Pandemic, it now makes sense we involve our entire membership in the voting process for our National elected officials; and

WHEREAS; BIG members understand that the current Delegates voting system for the BIG National President and National Elected Officers is much like the U.S. National Electoral voting system that allows Presidents of the United States to be elected while losing the popular vote; and

WHEREAS; BIG members understand that its current annual Delegates voting system disenfranchises the rest of the dues paying members in good financial standing who, are not allowed to vote and further creates a voting system much like the District of Columbia known as "*Taxation Without Representation*"; and

WHEREAS; BIG's understands that its National Coalition In Public Service (NCEPS) partner organizations (<http://bit.ly/2WvAnlw>) combined of Federally Employed Women (FEW.org), Federal Asian Pacific Council (FAPAC), National IMAGE, Society of American Indian Government Employees (SAIGE), FEDQ, Federal Employees With Disabilities (FEDs) utilize independent contractors who capture the vote of **each dues paying member** in good financial standing to elect their National President and National Officers; and

WHEREAS; BIG believes it's a U.S. Constitutional right for every eligible American to vote in the U.S. National Elections and therefore, BIG must now adopt the same system for each BIG member to cast a vote on its National Officers who are tasked with piloting this World Class organization.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED;

The BIG National President and National Executive Committee will conduct a Feasibility Study within (7) months following the adoption of this Resolution, and that the parameters of the study be approved by the National Board of Directors.

Submitted by:

Matthew F. Fogg

Dr. Matthew F. Fogg
Former BIG National 2nd Vice President
BIG Region XI - Heritage Chapter President
Chief Deputy-United States Marshal, ret.
June 24, 2020