

Blacks In Government® 2022 National Delegates Assembly Cleveland, Ohio



RESOLUTION

BLACKS IN GOVERNMENT SUPPORTS THE LAW ENFORCEMENT REFORM LEGISLATION H.R. 6762 ESTABLISHING A SPECIAL INSPECTOR GENERAL FOR LAW ENFORCEMENT (SIGLE) ACT, INTRODUCED IN THE U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES BY CONGRESSMAN GERRY CONNOLLY (D-VA), CHAIRMAN OF THE HOUSE SUBCOMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS

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 February 18, 2022, H.R. 6762 was introduced in the 117th U.S. Congress (2020-2022) House of Representatives as a subsequent legislation to counter the Senates non vote on the H.R. 7120, the George Floyd Justice in Policing Act of 2020, supported by a BIG National Resolution adopted on August 23, 2021; and

WHEREAS, H.R. 6762 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 <u>H.R.6762</u>, the <u>SIGLE</u> <u>Act of 2022</u> in the 117th U.S Congress (<u>Bill Summary</u>) and request that:

- (1) The National President of Blacks In Government will write letters to the House of Representatives, the Honorable Nancy Pelosi, House Speaker and U.S. Senate Chairman, the Honorable Mitch McConnell asking both to support passage of this legislation.
- (2) 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.
- (3) The National President of BIG will write a letter to Congressman Gerry Connolly (D-VA), Chairman of the House Subcommittee on Government Operations thanking him for introducing H.R. 6762 legislation aimed at increasing transparency and accountability in American law enforcement.

THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED.

The National President of Blacks In Government will broadcast an email via the BIG National Listserver by attaching the adopted letter and resolution sent to Congressional Representatives per this resolution and further broadcast to the BIG membership via the National Listserver any Congressional correspondence in response to this adopted BIG resolution.

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

Submitted by:

Dr. Matthew F. Foss

Dr. Matthew F. Fogg
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RET. And,

Ms. Sharrell Davis - Heritage Chapter Secretary & RXI Treasurer Ms. Sharrell Davis

June 15, 2022