



April 20, 2023

The Honorable Gavin Newsom  
Governor, State of California  
1021 O Street, Suite 9000  
Sacramento, CA 95814

The Honorable Anthony Rendon  
Speaker California State Assembly  
1021 O Street, Suite 8330  
Sacramento, CA 95814

The Honorable Nancy Skinner, Chair  
Senate Budget Committee  
1020 N Street Suite 502  
Sacramento, CA 95814

The Honorable Toni Atkins  
Speaker Pro Tempore  
California State Senate  
1021 O Street, Suite 5818

The Honorable Phil Ting, Chair  
Assembly Budget Committee  
1021 O Street, Suite 8230  
Sacramento, CA 95814

**RE: California Legislative Black Caucus 2023-2024 Budget Requests**

**Dear Governor Newsom, Speaker Rendon, Senate Pro Tempore Atkins, and Budget Chairs:**

On behalf of the California Legislative Black Caucus, we would like to extend our gratitude for the diligence and focus you have displayed to make equity a central principle of both the Assembly and Senate budget. Last year, with your partnership, we secured over \$200 million in funding for foundational programs and initiatives that advance racial and economic equity in the state of California.

We are proud to present to you our CLBC 2023-2024 legislative budget requests. These proposals exemplify the objectives of the CLBC, which promotes Economic Security, Educational Equity, and Social Justice Reform for African Americans in the state of California.

**California Black Media [ Wilson ]**

This proposal would enact budget language to ensure that existing and future state resources appropriated for community news organizations are equitably distributed to Black local news organizations.



**Equity Multiplier - \$300 - [ Weber ]**

The proposal allocates \$300 million for elementary and middle schools where at least 90% of students qualify for free or reduced-price meals. For high schools, that percentage is 85%.

**Youth Reinvestment Grant Program - \$50 million - [ Jones-Sawyer ]**

Request for \$50 million to the Youth Reinvestment Grant Fund to support programs that divert youth away from jails using trauma-informed, community, and health-based interventions.

**Violence Intervention and Prevention Program [ Jones-Sawyer ]**

Request for \$35 million to support programs that conduct outreach to targeted gangs and offer support services to reduce and eliminate gang involvement through job training, access to healthcare and crisis response to shootings and violence.

**Restorative Justice Fund - \$15 Million - [ Weber ]**

This fund would provide resources to local educational agencies that elect to implement the Restorative Justice best practices that will be developed and posted on the Department of Education's website by June 1, 2024, pursuant to AB 2598.

**California State University Dominguez Hills - \$35 Million [ Bradford ]**

This fund would adequately address mandatory salary and health pension issues for all employees; allow us to improve the Graduation Initiative 2025; support enrollment growth; and shore up infrastructure challenges that will help benefit our campus and facilitate student success.

**Birthing Justice for California Families Pilot - \$67 Million [ Smallwood-Cuevas ]**

Outlined in AB 583, this bill would establish a 3-year pilot grant program for community-based doula groups, local public health departments, and other organizations that provide full-spectrum doula care to: (1) women and birthing people whose communities suffer from disproportionately high rates of negative birth outcomes, but who are not eligible for Medi-Cal coverage; and (2) incarcerated women and birthing people.

**UCLA Ralph J. Bunche Center - \$5 Million - [ Bryan ]**

This request funds the operations of the only Organized Research Unit in the UC system and the leading hub of research and policy on the conditions of Black life. The Bunche Center is core to the research and development of critical policy interventions that support equity, justice and Black students and community members.

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