

## California Reparations Task Force Accountability

We, the undersigned, express our strong support of Assembly Bill 3121, the **Reparations Task Force** bill introduced in February by California Legislative Black Caucus chair Assembly member Shirley Weber (D-San Diego), and signed into law this September by Governor Newsom. Further, we call on all members and allies of sexual and gender minority communities to ensure that our support of this task force is visible, vocal, and powerful, to assert, unequivocally, that the fight for LGBTQ justice does not and will not advance apart from the fight for racial justice.

We have long since known that **every harm resulting from homophobia and transphobia** – social, economic, psychological, physical, and more – **is magnified exponentially when combined with harms resulting from racism and anti-Blackness**. The work to rectify harms and injustice against LGBTQ people generally will be incomplete, indeed will be ineffective, until the structural underpinnings of anti-Blackness are deeply understood and thoroughly remedied.

AB 3121 establishes that an eight-member task force be gathered by June 2021, with the charge to study and develop reparation proposals for African Americans in California. These proposals for state-level reparations – explicitly noted as not replacing any reparations enacted on a federal level and are to be issued no later than June 2022. Over 400 years since the capture and enslavement Africans and following 246 years of chattel slavery, plus another 150 more of de jure and de facto discrimination in housing, employment, education, healthcare and criminal justice treatment, those proposals – as well as the public education proposals to accompany them – **reparations cannot come soon enough. And neither can California's leadership on this issue.**

As leaders **we are expressing our explicit support of the bill and we will also be holding our elected officials accountable** so that the work of the task force is not stalled, stays funded and on track.