

Florida Legislative Black Caucus

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

April 23, 2020

THE FLORIDA LEGISLATIVE BLACK CAUCUS THROUGH ITS COVID-19 TASK FORCE CONTINUES TO PUSH FOR SUPPORT TO COMMUNITIES OF COLOR

Tallahassee—During March 2020, the Florida Legislative Black Caucus (FLBC) established its Coronavirus/Covid-19 Statewide Task Force as an early attempt to stay ahead of the worldwide pandemic and address potential adverse challenges germane towards communities of color. "Florida consists of more than 21 million constituents and this has been an enormous undertaking" stated Senator Bobby Powell, Jr., Chairman of the Florida Legislative Black Caucus (West Palm Beach). Chairman Powell stated, "I have asked the FLBC Immediate-Past-Chair Representative Bruce Antone (Orlando) and Representative Barbara Watson (Miami Gardens) to serve as the Oversight Co-Chairs for the Task Force."

Covid-19 Task Force includes:

- Health and Human Services Team in partnership with the Florida State Medical Association Minority Professionals led by Senator Audrey Gibson (Jacksonville).
- Local Governmental and Media Relations Team led by Representative Kamia Brown (Orlando).
- Corrections Inmate and Human Protection Services led by Representative Diane Hart (Tampa).
- K-12 and Higher Education Innovations/Re-entry led by Representative Patricia Williams (Pompano Beach).
- Occupational and Juvenile Protections Services led by Representative Wengay Newton (St. Petersburg)
- Small and Minority Business Recovery/Unemployment Services led by Representative Anika Omphroy (Lauderdale Lakes).

Currently, there are 29 members of the Florida Legislative Black Caucus and each member has been assigned to one of the aforementioned committees. Representative Kamia Brown stated, "This Covid-19 pandemic will require each of us to stay the course and work hand and hand with all of our State Agency Leadership Systems to protect the communities we serve."

The Florida Legislative Black Caucus will continue the fight to keep Florida's correctional facilities, schools and communities safe for every Floridian. For additional Covid-19 resources, visit www.FLBlackCaucus.com

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