

Phill Briscoe

From: Senator@murray.senate.gov
Sent: Monday, December 13, 2021 3:10 PM
To: Phill Briscoe
Subject: Response from Senator Murray



Dear Mr. Briscoe,

Thank you for contacting me regarding reparations for African-Americans and H.R.40/S.1083, *Commission to Study and Develop Reparation Proposals for African-Americans Act*. I appreciate hearing from you on this serious issue.

Our nation's shameful history of racism and oppression of African-Americans did not end with the signing of the Emancipation Proclamation or the ratification of the Thirteenth, Fourteenth, and Fifteenth Amendments to the Constitution. From the systemic terror, persecution, and violence of the Jim Crow south, to widespread segregation and unjust policies in education, housing, employment and more, the legacy of these shameful practices continues to impact African-American families across the country. I believe that as a nation, a critical part of upholding our values of equality, justice, and freedom is recognizing the full scope of our history and its consequences in the present—that means confronting the stark reality that many of our core policies and institutions perpetuate the bigotry and injustice toward African-Americans that began with slavery.

That is why I am proud to cosponsor Senator Booker's bill, S.1083. The bill would create a 13-member commission—comprised of three members appointed by the president, three by the House, one by the Senate, and six from organizations that have championed racial justice. The Commission would study the impact of slavery and continuing discrimination against African-Americans, and make recommendations to Congress regarding appropriate remedies. This legislation is an important step toward correcting some of the enduring economic and social injustices so many people in our country face, and I am committed to keeping up the fight to ensure African-Americans, and other communities who have faced disadvantages and discrimination, have equal access to opportunities in this country. We aspire to be a nation in which every person is able to live up to the fullest of their potential, and I am confident this legislation will bring us closer to this essential goal.

Again, thank you for taking the time to share your thoughts with me. If you would like to learn more about my work in the Senate, please feel free to sign up for my updates through the subscribe button below.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Patty". The lettering is cursive and fluid.

Patty Murray
United States Senator



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