

THE BLACK WOMEN BEST SEAL OF APPROVAL

A SCORECARD



In collaboration with over 40 Black women contributors, the [CongressionalCaucus on Black Women and Girls](#) (CCBWG) and [Liberation in a Generation](#) produced ***An Economy for All: Building a Black Women Best Legislative Agenda*** — a vital congressional report that demonstrates what's possible when Black women are centered in economic policymaking at the federal level. To that end, this scorecard was created to ensure that policy proposals will improve Black women's lives and livelihoods and move us toward an equitable economy for all. We urge elected officials, advocates, activists, and researchers to utilize the Black Women Best framework and scorecard as they design and evaluate public policy. Learn more about the scorecard and read the full report at bit.ly/BlackWomenBest.

CATEGORY I

Policymaking Design Process

Public policy environment and policymaking process are representative and supportive of Black women. Black women are meaningfully involved in planning, dialogue, and decision making; ensuring that their rights, needs, and contributions are reflected in the consideration of policy options and policy formulation.

CRITERIA	✓	✗
The policy was developed through consultation with Black women and/or Black women's rights organizations from diverse backgrounds. Black women are also key stakeholders at all stages of the policymaking process.		
Language within the policy is inclusive by acknowledging diversity and intersectionality, conveys respect to all people, is sensitive to differences, and promotes equitable opportunities. It is also person-centered and avoids outdated and offensive nomenclature. Lastly, the language is accessible and accommodates people of diverse abilities and literacy skills.		
Evidence generated by Black women or additional frameworks that are inclusive of Black women are used by key actors to identify policy priorities and inform policy decisions. Policy also encompasses a data-driven, systems approach that reflects current and historical policies and practices responsible for inequities.		

CATEGORY II

Systemic Accessibility and Inclusivity

Policy ensures fairness, safety, and opportunity in institutions and systems. Specifically, the policy accounts for the accumulated effects of centuries of institutional and systemic racism, sexism, and ableism that have reinforced and perpetuated discrimination, biases, and inequity. Lastly, the policy avoids a race-neutral approach and instead centers equity, reform, and justice to promote equality.

CRITERIA	✓	✗
Addresses and eliminates barriers and challenges that disproportionately impact Black women. Ensures Black women and communities can successfully take up policy.		
Explicitly provides resources and opportunities that are accessible to Black women and necessary for them to achieve the intended policy goals.		
Includes targeted supports and efforts with concrete actions to address systemic inequities and eliminate structural disparities.		
Accounts for the lived experiences of Black women, including historical and intergenerational trauma.		
Policy design has considered and incorporated elements of Disability Justice, Reproductive Justice, and Environmental Justice frameworks.		

CATEGORY III

Implementation and Evaluation

The policy is carried out and assessed in a manner that centers Black women and achieves equitable outcomes.

CRITERIA	✓	✗
The policy is carried out and assessed in a manner that centers Black women and achieves equitable outcomes.		
The government collects and publishes disaggregated data on the implementation and/or outcomes of the policy; findings are accessible and widely available.		
Impacts of the policy directly benefit Black women and the mechanisms to achieve its intended impacts do not burden Black women and other structurally marginalized groups but rather place the responsibility on the privileged class.		
Policy outcomes are transformational and make meaningful differences in the lives of Black women. Consequently, Black women can lead economically secure, safe, and healthy lives.		
Policy impacts reduce — and ultimately eliminate — disparities in income, wealth, health, education, and opportunity.		

