



June 18, 2020

**Contact state legislators  
to support Black Lives  
Matter legislation!**

A wave of outrage has spread across Oregon and the nation in reaction to the killing of George Floyd when a policeman placed his knee on George's neck for nine minutes. The images of his killing have woken the nation's conscience to demand police reforms, which have long been called for. Perhaps this time, enough people have joined the rallies and protests that their demands will be heard and acted upon.

Reforms need to happen at all levels of society, individually in how we intersect with each other, and at the policy level in cities, counties, state and at the national level.

Rep. Alissa Keny-Guyer wrote this, drawing our attention to the proposals that the legislative People of Color Caucus have suggested for state level reforms:

"Going forward, I support the [Oregon POC Caucus legislative recommendations](#)

- Prohibit an arbitrator from reducing penalties for misconduct findings against police officers, as we attempted to pass in [SB 1567](#) in the 2020 Session.
- Make the Oregon Attorney General responsible for an independent review to investigate injuries and deaths when officers deploy force-and for prosecuting them as appropriate.
- Convene a bipartisan work group to propose a bill in 2021 to strengthen Oregon's standard for police use of force.

The Coalition of Communities of Color released [its recommendations](#), and others have written me with additional ideas that deserve consideration:

- Roll back qualified/blanket immunity.
- Allow independent investigators access to all officer statements.
- Allow attorneys access to an officer's disciplinary record.
- Include all police officer communications (texts, WhatsApp, messenger) as part of standard discovery with DAs offices.
- Defund police programs that cause violence and shift funding to anti-bias training, body cams, community building, and other methods of reducing police violence.
- Remove police from the schools.
- From former Portland Mayor and police chief Tom Potter: "Instead of calling police law enforcement officers, call them community peace officers."

Contact your Oregon Representative and Senator and ask that they support and vote in favor of the [Oregon POC Caucus legislative recommendations](#).

Find your Oregon state Representative and Senator [here](#).