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H. RES. 226

Recognizing that the United States has a moral obligation to meet its
foundational promise of guaranteed justice for all.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MARCH 11, 2021

Ms. PRESSLEY (for herself, Ms. OCASIO-CORTEZ, Ms. CLARKE of New York, Ms. NORTON, Mr. EVANS, Ms. JACKSON LEE, Ms. JOHNSON of Texas, Mr. ESPAILLAT, Ms. LEE of California, Mr. RUSH, Ms. OMAR, Mr. JONES, Ms. BUSH, Mr. HASTINGS, Mr. BOWMAN, Ms. JAYAPAL, Mr. BLUMENAUER, and Ms. VELÁZQUEZ) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary

RESOLUTION

Recognizing that the United States has a moral obligation
to meet its foundational promise of guaranteed justice
for all.

Whereas the United States has an incarceration crisis that
has destabilized millions of Americans, caused intergen-
erational harm and trauma to families, decimated entire
communities, and disproportionately impacted commu-
nities of color, particularly Black communities;

Whereas the Federal Government has an obligation to rebuild
the American legal system so that it is smaller, safer, less
punitive, and more humane;

Whereas mass decarceration is a moral and societal imperative that the United States must strategically and effectively pursue;

Whereas the Federal Government manages the largest immigration detention system in the world, spends more resources on immigration enforcement than on all other Federal enforcement agencies combined, and now makes up the fastest growing incarceration system in the country;

Whereas it should be the responsibility of the Federal Government to make America more free by dramatically reducing jail, prison, and immigration detention populations; make America more equal by eliminating racial disparities, wealth-based discrimination, and corporate profiteering; make America more secure by investing in the communities most destabilized by the failed policies of overpolicing and mass incarceration; and make America more just and humane by ensuring basic resources needed to feel safe are equitably provided to all people;

Whereas the American legal system duplicates and maintains systems of oppression that can be traced back to slavery, and as a result disproportionately harms Black communities throughout the United States;

Whereas public safety is of paramount importance for every person, family, and community in this country;

Whereas a humane and effective justice system is a necessary predicate for a functioning and healthy democracy;

Whereas, as recently as the early 1970s, the United States had an incarceration rate on par with most other Western democracies, and while their crime rates today are at

nearly identical levels, America's incarceration rate is five times higher;

Whereas the United States of America, a Nation purported to be founded on the principles of liberty and justice for all, has become the most incarcerated country in the world;

Whereas throughout the United States—

(1) nearly 5 million people are arrested and jailed every year;

(2) almost 2.2 million people are incarcerated, including 176,824 people in Federal jails and prisons;

(3) collectively, 1,273,605 people are locked in State prisons and another 745,200 people are detained in a local jail on any given night;

(4) 500,000 immigrants are incarcerated in immigrant jails and prisons annually, marking a 75-percent increase in immigration detention over the last decade;

(5) 4.5 million people are under some form of community supervision, including probation and parole;

(6) despite making up just 4 percent of the world's population, the United States is home to 21 percent of the world's prisoners;

(7) incarcerated people remain incarcerated for longer periods of time, and the number of people serving life sentences has quadrupled since 1984, even as crime has fallen, and—

(A) one out of every seven people in prison is currently serving a life sentence, of which almost one-quarter are sentenced to life without parole;

(B) the average sentence length for individuals convicted of a Federal offense carrying a mandatory minimum penalty is 110 months of imprisonment;

(C) more than two-thirds of Federal prisoners serving life sentences have been convicted of non-violent crimes, including 30 percent convicted for a drug crime; and

(D) there are tens of thousands of people over the age of 50 who remain locked up though they are elderly, sick, and pose little to no public safety risk;

(8) tens of thousands of people are forcibly deported away from their families through an immigration enforcement system that replicates the harms of overpolicing and racial profiling by local law enforcement agencies due to formal and informal cooperation agreements between such agencies and Federal immigration enforcement; and

(9) more than a quarter of a million young people are arrested or referred to law enforcement in their schools each year with increasing investments toward school policing, surveillance, suspensions and expulsions, harsh discipline, and arrests, in lieu of counseling, educational resources, and physical improvements to classrooms and school structures, leading to a “cradle-to-prison pipeline”;

Whereas while incarceration is the final and too frequently end result of the American legal system, the harm is collectively experienced by a far larger set of people, especially Black and Brown individuals, through overzealous policing practices and subsequent correctional surveillance and stigmatization;

Whereas Black people are incarcerated at 5 times the rate of White people, making up just 13 percent of the population, but 33 percent of the country’s prisoners;

Whereas Latinos represent 16 percent of the adult population, but account for 23 percent of the Nation's prisoners;

Whereas the imprisonment rate for Black women (92 per 100,000) is twice the rate of White women (49 per 100,000);

Whereas Black, Hispanics, and indigenous communities are the most heavily impacted by the American legal system;

Whereas expanded and militarized police forces, including in the form of proactive policing or so-called "broken windows" policing, has led to mass criminalization, worsening police-community relations, and unacceptable levels of State violence, specifically impacting Black people;

Whereas women are the fastest growing population in the American legal system, outpacing men two to one, and their numbers have grown nearly 800 percent from 1978 to 2017;

Whereas one in two women in prison are incarcerated as a result of nonviolent offenses, and nearly two-thirds are confined in jails due to an inability to afford cash bail;

Whereas a majority of incarcerated women report having experienced trauma due to sexual violence, intimate partner violence, and caregiver violence;

Whereas 85 percent of currently incarcerated women report having been the primary caretaker of children prior to their incarceration;

Whereas a large percentage of currently incarcerated women are either elderly, ill, survivors of domestic violence, or have served more than 10 years;

Whereas incarcerated women are subject to permanent denial of parental rights, which have contributed significantly to the destruction of families;

Whereas women and young people continue to be criminalized and fear arrest or jail for experiencing a pregnancy loss, ending a pregnancy, or supporting a loved one who has lost or ended a pregnancy;

Whereas the toll of incarceration and detention has had a severe impact on lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, intersex, and asexual (“LGBTQ+”) individuals who are imprisoned at far higher rates than the overall population;

Whereas 8 percent of adults in prisons and jails, or approximately 162,000 adults, identify as lesbian, gay, or bisexual;

Whereas an estimated 3,209 adults held in prisons or jails in the United States identify as transgender;

Whereas LGBTQ+ people are more likely to experience sexual violence while incarcerated than non-LGBTQ+ people;

Whereas LGBTQ+ immigrants are 97 times more likely to be sexually victimized in immigration detention than non-LGBTQ+ individuals;

Whereas LGBTQ+ people in prison, jail, and detention facilities are disproportionately subjected to solitary confinement as a means of protection compared to non-LGBTQ+ people;

Whereas incarceration can be traumatic, dehumanizing, and harmful for LGBTQ+ people affected by it, particularly those who are low-income and people of color;

Whereas violence against transgender women of color has reached epidemic proportions in the United States, as evidenced by the murder of at least 26 transgender women in 2018;

Whereas incarcerated individuals endure jails and prisons that are cruel, inhumane, and are subjected to practices that are not conducive to rehabilitation;

Whereas over 61,000 people across the United States are subjected to solitary confinement every day, isolated for 22 to 24 hours a day with little to no human interaction;

Whereas many incarcerated individuals suffering from chronic illnesses often receive little or no treatment, and individuals suffering from substance use disorders face higher rates of overdose in jails and prisons that prohibit treatment drugs such as methadone and buprenorphine;

Whereas one in five people incarcerated is a person with a cognitive disability, while another one in five inmates has a serious mental health diagnosis;

Whereas incarcerated people are three or four times more likely to report having a disability than the rest of the United States population;

Whereas incarcerated people with cognitive and physical disabilities are disproportionately subjected to solitary confinement;

Whereas people with disabilities are subject to criminalization, violence, and death, including those with untreated mental health diagnosis who are 16 times more likely to be killed by law enforcement;

Whereas the total cost of the mass incarceration crisis, including the costs to those incarcerated and their families, is nearly \$182 billion per year;

Whereas the burden to pay for the Nation's mass incarceration crisis too often falls upon everyday people trapped in cycles of poverty and intergenerational trauma, and statistical mechanisms to comprehensively quantify the ongoing and generational effects of carceral trauma are limited and oftentimes unknown;

Whereas nearly a half a million people are in jails without having been convicted, often because of an inability to afford cash bail, which leads to an increased likelihood of conviction and lengthier sentences;

Whereas in order to finance the mass incarceration system, many cities, States, courts, and prosecutors levy hefty fines at nearly every stage of the criminal justice process, including—

(1) fines and fees for being arrested;

(2) lawyer fees;

(3) crime lab fees and victim assessments;

(4) fees to enter a diversion or substance use disorder treatment program; or

(5) fees to pay for public and private probation supervision;

Whereas people leave jails and prison owing an average of \$13,607 in fines and fees, and an inability to pay can lead to being denied the right to vote, license suspension, additional fines and fees, and even further incarceration;

Whereas the policy decisions that led to the incarceration crisis, as well as the unjust economic burden to sustain the system, caused inestimable, intergenerational, and disproportionate harm to communities;

Whereas one in two adults in America has had a family member in jail or prison, and one in five has had a parent incarcerated;

Whereas nearly 65 percent of families with an incarcerated or detained family member are unable to meet basic needs, including housing, health, food, and employment;

Whereas children with an incarcerated parent are nearly six times more likely to be expelled from school and increasingly less likely to graduate from college than children without incarcerated parents;

Whereas zero-tolerance policies, including exclusionary disciplinary policies and school-based arrests, result in the growing cradle-to-prison pipeline;

Whereas tens of thousands of United States citizen children have a parent who is detained or has been deported, with approximately 5,000 children placed in the foster care system;

Whereas children with incarcerated mothers are five times more likely to end up in foster care than those with incarcerated fathers;

Whereas a vast, sound, and consistent body of scientific evidence suggests that—

(1) the best estimate of the overall effect of incarceration on crime is modest, and deterrence effects are negligible;

(2) increased coordination between local law enforcement and immigration enforcement has not been shown to have a measurable impact on reducing crime and has been shown to destabilize communities;

(3) education programs for people in prison have been proven to reduce recidivism, yet such programs have

been underfunded or altogether eliminated at both the State and Federal level, including the ban on Pell grants in prison, and restoring Pell grant access to prisoners would increase the employment rate for people with a criminal history by 10 percent and improve collective earnings by \$45 million in the first year after release; and

(4) the root causes of crime and instability are typically poverty, substance use disorder, family and generational trauma, and poor access to health care and other basic social services;

Whereas the consequences of criminal convictions do not end with the prison sentence served or fines paid, and a majority of people imprisoned in the United States are expected to return home, return to society, and become productive members of their communities;

Whereas yearly, over 680,000 people are released from incarceration, and are expected to be taxpayers rather than tax burdens, yet the reality is that these individuals go home to find that their sentences, although served, are far from over;

Whereas there are approximately 45,000 collateral consequences and civil disabilities across jurisdictions that prevent people with criminal records from reentering society, gaining meaningful employment;

Whereas in many jurisdictions, individuals with a criminal record are automatically excluded from certain professional licenses such as those required to be a security guard, firefighter, real estate broker, and electrician;

Whereas an estimated 6.1 million Americans, or 1 in every 40 adults, are banned from voting due to felony dis-

enfranchisement or laws restricting voting rights for those with a current or previous felony conviction;

Whereas the Federal Government has invested massive amounts of funding in policing, immigration enforcement, and prison and detention systems, which has accelerated mass criminalization and incarceration and fueled the prison industrial complex;

Whereas 2019 represents the 25th anniversary of the signing of the Violent Crime Control and Law Enforcement Act of 1994 (in this resolution referred to as the “94 Crime Bill”), and awareness that many of the policies contained in the 94 Crime Bill have proven harmful to certain communities;

Whereas the 94 Crime Bill put forward the false view that punitive systems of policing and prisons lead to public safety and are necessary to combat “violent” crime;

Whereas by endorsing and financing ineffective and damaging policies and practices at the State and local levels, the 94 Crime Bill encouraged the growth of police and prison infrastructure while limiting, and sometimes depleting, community investments that would have increased public safety, particularly in underresourced communities; and

Whereas the Federal Government has a tremendous impact on the operation of the criminal legal system at the Federal, State, and local levels and can push for a more humane, dignified, and just society for all: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved*, That it is the sense of the House of Rep-
2 resentatives that the time is now for the Federal Govern-

1 ment to begin a large-scale decarceration effort to reshape
2 the American legal system to—

3 (1) support and commit to a participatory peo-
4 ple’s process that recognizes directly impacted people
5 as experts on transforming the justice system, who
6 speak from experience about the devastation of crim-
7 inalization and incarceration and offer community-
8 oriented solutions that reduce harm by—

9 (A) empowering directly impacted commu-
10 nities, through people’s assemblies, townhalls,
11 listening sessions, and workshops, to inform
12 and draft legislation to repeal and dismantle
13 the 94 Crime Bill and other punitive policies,
14 and replace them with a holistic and commu-
15 nity-led public health and safety agenda; and

16 (B) advancing a community-led platform of
17 justice, freedom, and safety, which shifts re-
18 sources away from criminalization and incarcer-
19 ation and toward policies and investments that
20 fairly and equitably ensure that all people can
21 thrive;

22 (2) dramatically reduce the incarcerated popu-
23 lations to—

24 (A) decriminalize behavior and divert cases
25 that do not require confinement by—

1 (i) providing tax incentives to local
2 governments and States that commit to
3 policies such as repealing truth-in-sen-
4 tencing and three-strike provisions to sig-
5 nificantly reduce the prison and jail popu-
6 lation;

7 (ii) decriminalizing sex work by re-
8 moving criminal and civil penalties related
9 to consensual sex work and addressing
10 structural inequities that impede the safe-
11 ty, dignity, and well-being of all individ-
12 uals, especially those most vulnerable to
13 discrimination on the basis of race, gender
14 identity or expression, sexual orientation,
15 disability, socioeconomic status, and citi-
16 zenship status;

17 (iii) decriminalizing addiction, home-
18 lessness, poverty, HIV status, and disabil-
19 ities, including mental health diagnosis, by
20 legalizing marijuana and overdose preven-
21 tion sites, declining to criminally prosecute
22 low-level offenses such as loitering and
23 theft of necessity goods, and expunging the
24 records of individuals for all drug-related
25 offenses;

1 (iv) dramatically increasing diversion
2 opportunities, community service, restora-
3 tive justice programming, and treatment
4 options that minimize court involvement
5 and result in no prison time for most of-
6 fenses where the person does not cause or
7 intend to cause harm;

8 (v) ending the criminalization of
9 Black and Brown students in school, in-
10 cluding ending zero-tolerance school dis-
11 cipline policies and dress code and appear-
12 ance policies that disproportionately impact
13 girls of color and LGBTQ+ students, the
14 removal of police and school resource offi-
15 cers, the decriminalization of truancy, and
16 the reallocation of funds to support trau-
17 ma-informed, comprehensive mental health
18 and restorative services;

19 (vi) ensuring that any and all new re-
20 duced sentencing provisions be applied
21 retroactively and are inclusive of impacted
22 immigrant communities;

23 (vii) creating a clemency review board
24 that is comprised of community, court, and
25 congressional stakeholders to identify and

1 make recommendations of people in Fed-
2 eral facilities who should be considered for
3 clemency consideration by the President;
4 and

5 (viii) decriminalizing the act of migra-
6 tion by repealing provisions in Federal law
7 that criminalize migrants for irregular bor-
8 der crossings, significantly limiting the
9 conduct- and conviction-based grounds of
10 deportability and inadmissibility, and end-
11 ing draconian systems of mandatory deten-
12 tion and automatic deportation;

13 (B) make confinement last only as long as
14 necessary by—

15 (i) capping prison sentences for all
16 crimes, particularly those that do not cause
17 serious harm, and where no intention to
18 cause such harm exists;

19 (ii) ending the death penalty, includ-
20 ing effective death sentences of life without
21 the possibility of parole;

22 (iii) ending mandatory minimum sen-
23 tencing and providing incarcerated individ-
24 uals an opportunity to petition for release
25 after serving 10 years for any crime by a

1 review board that includes at least one in-
2 dividual who has previously served time, to
3 both encourage and reward people who re-
4 form themselves and pose no threat to
5 public safety no matter the offense;

6 (iv) ending truth-in-sentencing laws
7 and reinstating Federal parole;

8 (v) ending the sentencing disparity be-
9 tween crack and cocaine;

10 (vi) establishing a national compas-
11 sionate release standard that includes a
12 presumption of release for any person with
13 a disability who has spent at least 15 years
14 in prison, as well as any person over the
15 age of 50 who has spent at least 10 years
16 in prison, over the age of 55 who has spent
17 5 years in prison, or over the age of 60;

18 (vii) requiring States to impose sen-
19 tencing reviewing standards, particularly
20 for juveniles sentenced prior to their 18th
21 birthday, abolishing youth jails, and mak-
22 ing the detention of children in any form
23 the absolute last resort;

24 (viii) repealing overly restrictive ha-
25 beas corpus rules that make it difficult for

1 people who have been wrongfully accused
2 to bring their cases to court; and

3 (ix) repealing the Prison Litigation
4 Reform Act of 1996 to return agency to
5 incarcerated individuals and power to the
6 courts to carry out regulation and over-
7 sight through court orders; and

8 (C) reduce the risk of recidivism by trans-
9 forming the experience of confinement by—

10 (i) ending solitary confinement;

11 (ii) incarcerating people, to the extent
12 possible, at a facility closest to their home,
13 and at a location that comports with their
14 security destination;

15 (iii) banning the prosecution of chil-
16 dren under the age of 18 in adult courts
17 and ensuring juveniles are not housed in
18 adult prisons but in community- or home-
19 based rehabilitation programs;

20 (iv) allowing transgender individuals
21 to be housed in a facility that conforms
22 with their gender identity;

23 (v) providing access to high-quality,
24 trauma-informed, and culturally responsive
25 physical, mental, and behavioral health

1 care in prisons and jails, including sub-
2 stance use disorder and mental health
3 treatment, medication for overdoses, hor-
4 monal treatment and gender-affirming pro-
5 cedures, and full reproductive and gynecolo-
6 gical services, including adequate services
7 for pregnant, laboring, and postpartum
8 people;

9 (vi) providing people who are incarcerated
10 with access to commissary items, and
11 clothing at rates no higher than those
12 available on the free market, as well as
13 programming, educational materials, and
14 personal property in which all items are
15 consistent with the individual's gender
16 identity and cultural preferences;

17 (vii) providing high-quality, gender-re-
18 sponsive education and vocation training
19 and access to sufficient libraries and read-
20 ing materials;

21 (viii) restoring eligibility for Federal
22 Pell grants to all students regardless of
23 immigration status and those incarcerated
24 in Federal, State, and local facilities with-
25 out regard to offense or sentence length;

1 (ix) ending forced labor practices and
2 requiring incarcerated individuals to be
3 paid for their labor at a rate that is no
4 lower than the Federal minimum wage;

5 (x) providing generous in-person visi-
6 tation for a reasonable duration of time,
7 including regular visitation between incar-
8 cerated individuals who are primary care-
9 taker parents and their family members,
10 and access to free phone calls and video
11 conferencing sessions;

12 (xi) improving the quality of in-person
13 visits by allowing partners, parents, and
14 children to have physical contact, a room
15 with natural light, a space that allows for
16 some privacy, a place with food available
17 for purchase, space for children and par-
18 ents to play together, and areas that are
19 accessible for families with disabilities in-
20 cluding American Sign Language inter-
21 preters and fully accessible buildings that
22 are compliant with the Americans with
23 Disabilities Act;

1 (xii) providing healthy and nutritious
2 food and room for physical exercise to pro-
3 mote health;

4 (xiii) establishing and maintaining
5 reasonable heating and cooling standards
6 in all Federal, State, and local prisons,
7 jails, and detention facilities;

8 (xiv) providing reasonable accom-
9 modations for people with disabilities as
10 required by the Americans with Disabilities
11 Act and section 504 of the Rehabilitation
12 Act;

13 (xv) establishing gender-responsive
14 practices for all incarcerated people, in-
15 cluding women and transgender, gender-
16 variant, and nonbinary individuals, includ-
17 ing a ban on solitary confinement and
18 physical restraints on pregnant people and
19 ensuring all body searches are conducted
20 by staff of the incarcerated person's pre-
21 ferred gender;

22 (xvi) explicitly prohibiting discrimina-
23 tion and mistreatment of incarcerated peo-
24 ple on the basis of sex, age, race, national

1 origin, disability, religion, and sexual ori-
2 entation and gender identity or expression;

3 (xvii) creating an independent division
4 or agency to provide oversight of the Bu-
5 reau of Prisons and Department of Home-
6 land Security with the authority to inves-
7 tigate civil rights complaints from incarcer-
8 ated individuals and ensure prisoners are
9 housed in safe, healthy environments;

10 (xviii) providing adequate oversight of
11 the Prison Rape Elimination Act to ensure
12 the safety and protection of all incarcer-
13 ated people, including LGBTQ+ individ-
14 uals in prisons and jails;

15 (xix) eliminating supervision revoca-
16 tion and reincarceration of people subject
17 to correctional surveillance who commit
18 compliance violations such as, but not lim-
19 ited to, failure to obtain a GED, failure to
20 secure housing, failure to obtain employ-
21 ment, or failure to attend mental health or
22 substance use treatment; and

23 (xx) providing support to ensure suc-
24 cessful transition for returning citizens
25 through targeted and robust reentry pro-

1 grams, including establishing a Federal
2 agency dedicated to monitoring and im-
3 proving reentry supports and services;

4 (3) ensure that wealth discrimination and cor-
5 porate profiteering play no role in the determination
6 of outcomes in the American legal system by—

7 (A) ending the use of secured bonds or
8 money bail and providing grants to States to
9 establish alternate pretrial systems to reduce
10 the pretrial detention population;

11 (B) repealing the use of criminal fees for
12 probation supervision, presentence investiga-
13 tions, and drug and alcohol testing;

14 (C) ending the imposition of court fees and
15 fines to individuals lacking the ability to pay,
16 and ending practices that result in incarcer-
17 ation, extension of supervision, or stripping of
18 rights for nonpayment of a debt alone;

19 (D) investing in public defender offices at
20 both the Federal and State levels, ensuring de-
21 fender offices have ample capacity, including
22 immigration law experts, to ensure the quality
23 of defense a person receives is not dependent on
24 one's financial situation and that the quality of

1 defense is not inhibited by unmanageable case-
2 loads;

3 (E) prohibiting private companies from
4 profiting from jails, prisons, immigration deten-
5 tion facilities and alternative-to-detention pro-
6 grams, probation programs, electronic moni-
7 toring, or any other form of mass supervision or
8 detention;

9 (F) prohibiting private companies from
10 profiting from the operation of prisons, jails,
11 and immigration detention facilities, including
12 food services, financial services, commissaries,
13 and medical care;

14 (G) delivering resources toward education,
15 fair employment, civic engagement, and access
16 to housing, transportation, and social services
17 for currently and formerly incarcerated people;

18 (H) ensuring the right to vote for all citi-
19 zens, including incarcerated and formerly incar-
20 cerated people and individuals awaiting trial;
21 and

22 (I) ending the practice of prison gerry-
23 mandering whereby incarcerated persons are
24 counted in census population counts as resi-
25 dents of correctional facilities and not their

1 most recent residence prior to imprisonment;
2 and

3 (4) rebuild the communities most harmed by
4 the failed policies of mass incarceration through—

5 (A) ensuring that dignity and stability is
6 within everyone’s reach by—

7 (i) creating a health care system that
8 guarantees every American comprehensive
9 care, including repealing the Hyde Amend-
10 ment and ensuring safe and legal access to
11 the full range of reproductive health serv-
12 ices, and eliminating out-of-pocket monthly
13 premiums, copays, and deductibles for sub-
14 stance use disorder and mental health
15 treatment in communities;

16 (ii) investing \$1 trillion to modernize
17 and expand the stock of social housing
18 throughout the country, providing targeted
19 down payment and rent payment assist-
20 ance, incentivizing local rent control pro-
21 grams, and conditioning Federal funding
22 on the removal of apartment ban policies
23 and exclusionary zoning requirements;

24 (iii) providing stability to the workers
25 who drive our economy by raising the min-

1 imum wage to \$15 and tying it to infla-
2 tion, providing a Federal job to every per-
3 son who wants one, ending the submin-
4 imum wage, and fairly compensating peo-
5 ple who provide immense value to their
6 families and communities through non-
7 traditional work such as childcare and
8 family caregiving;

9 (iv) ensuring all communities, specifi-
10 cally those communities disproportionately
11 impacted by systemic environmental, so-
12 cial, and economic injustice, have access to
13 clean, safe, and healthy homes, water,
14 food, and air, including the promotion, im-
15 plementation, and funding to support the
16 Green New Deal;

17 (v) providing free transportation and
18 removing criminal penalties associated with
19 accessing systems of transportation, such
20 as fare evasion, transportation and street
21 safety violations that result in ticketing,
22 court, and technical assistance programs,
23 and banning the use of biometric data such
24 as facial analytics technology as it relates
25 to travel;

1 (vi) providing comprehensive supports
2 and sustained resources to crime survivors,
3 including survivors of sexual assault, traf-
4 ficking and child exploitation, domestic vio-
5 lence, and gun violence, and their families
6 in the form of mental health treatment
7 costs, trauma services, victim relocations
8 services, and help covering basic needs
9 such as housing, food, and transportation;

10 (vii) reducing gun violence by regu-
11 lating manufacturers, limiting firearm pro-
12 duction and sales, including a permanent
13 ban on assault-type weapons, creating a
14 mass gun buyback program, and sup-
15 porting community-based violence and
16 trauma interruption initiatives;

17 (viii) ensuring reparations are made
18 through a systematic accounting, acknowl-
19 edgment, and repair of past and ongoing
20 harms to Black communities, specifically
21 descendants of enslaved people in America
22 that includes monetary compensation and
23 large-scale social investments that include,
24 but are not limited to, debt-free college,
25 homeownership assistance, guaranteed

1 health care, and business financing sup-
2 port;

3 (ix) dismantling and rebuilding a com-
4 passionate, just, and humane immigration
5 system that keeps families together and es-
6 tablishes a pathway to citizenship for mil-
7 lions of undocumented immigrants living
8 and contributing to society; and

9 (x) supporting and prioritizing the
10 preservation of families, particularly those
11 impacted by the legal and immigration sys-
12 tems, by removing strict timelines related
13 to the termination of parental rights under
14 the Adoption and Safe Families Act, re-
15 pealing provisions of the Immigration and
16 Nationality Act that mandate detention
17 and allow for the forced separation of im-
18 migrant children and families, promoting
19 policies and practices focused on trauma
20 prevention and support, family reunifica-
21 tion, and keeping families together, and
22 strengthening and enforcing the Indian
23 Child Welfare Act to ensure Native chil-
24 dren impacted by parental incarceration
25 can remain within Tribal communities; and

1 (B) ending militarized policing practices
2 and investing in services that provide real safe-
3 ty through—

4 (i) stopping the transfer of military
5 equipment to local police departments, en-
6 couraging district and States attorney of-
7 fices to report civilian death by an officer
8 to the Department of Justice, and elimi-
9 nating qualified immunity for police and
10 correctional officers;

11 (ii) prohibiting State and local law en-
12 forcement agencies from carrying out Fed-
13 eral immigration enforcement activities, in-
14 cluding a prompt end to Secure Commu-
15 nities programs and programs imple-
16 mented under section 287(g) of the Immi-
17 gration and Nationality Act, and ensuring
18 that localities are never required to share
19 information with Federal immigration en-
20 forcement agencies;

21 (iii) prioritizing law enforcement re-
22 sources to dramatically increase the solve
23 rate of the most serious offenses, such as
24 shootings, homicides, and sexual assaults,

1 including fully eliminating the rape-kit
2 backlog;

3 (iv) testing, implementing, and evalu-
4 ating methods of processing 911 calls that
5 reduce unnecessary contact between law
6 enforcement and community members;

7 (v) creating and supporting first-re-
8 sponder agencies and partnerships to solve
9 problems that arise from substance use
10 disorders, mental health diagnoses, and
11 poverty that do not require criminal en-
12 forcement or armed officers, including the
13 designation of a non-911 number for dis-
14 patch of crisis and trauma intervention
15 teams;

16 (vi) providing resources for nonlaw
17 enforcement-led, community-based violence
18 and trauma interruption models;

19 (vii) funding and empowering civilian
20 review boards to ensure communities have
21 input in the hiring and firing of police offi-
22 cers, disciplinary actions, budget and policy
23 decisions, and access to relevant agency in-
24 formation;

1 (viii) establishing standards and re-
2 porting, and providing training on implicit
3 bias, use of force, and deescalation, includ-
4 ing nonlethal interventions and responding
5 to crises involving youth, immigrants, peo-
6 ple with disabilities, people with different
7 religious affiliations, English language
8 learners and LGBTQ+ and gender-non-
9 conforming individuals;

10 (ix) eliminating the doctrine of abso-
11 lute immunity for prosecutors and pro-
12 viding resources to support better prosecu-
13 torial practices, in line with defendants'
14 constitutional and statutory rights;

15 (x) ensuring the economic vitality of
16 communities dependent on the incarcer-
17 ation industry by guaranteeing a job for
18 every person who currently works in a jail
19 or prison, including any necessary training
20 or education;

21 (xi) banning law enforcement use of
22 facial analytics technology, including sur-
23 veillance technologies and risk assessment
24 software that are subject to algorithmic
25 bias;

1 (xii) providing law enforcement, first
2 responders, and civilian staff with ade-
3 quate mental health services;

4 (xiii) severely restricting the use of
5 civil asset forfeiture by police departments
6 and prosecutor offices, limiting such for-
7 feitures to efforts to disrupt major crime
8 organizations, such as terrorist networks
9 and international drug cartels;

10 (xiv) reinstating the Department of
11 Justice's role in investigating police de-
12 partments that repeatedly violate citizens'
13 civil rights, and establishing adequate over-
14 sight of consent decrees; and

15 (xv) ensuring criminal liability for civil
16 rights and Brady violations resulting from
17 police or prosecutorial misconduct.

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