

TAKE YOUR SEAT AT THE TABLE



Every gain made towards economic security supports Black women in Mississippi with more freedom to pursue their dreams for themselves and their families. Following 2023's legislative victory in the passage of 12-month postpartum maternal Medicaid coverage in Mississippi, our sights are set even higher in 2024. While we have no doubt Black women will continue their determination to excel in Mississippi, these policies will help families move even further towards security. Your support can make the difference: get engaged, and take your seat at the table where decisions are made.

HEALTHCARE

Expand healthcare coverage to Mississippi Women.

Momentum continues to build for Mississippi to join the 40 U.S. states accepting federal dollars to extend health care to working people — including Black women — in our state. Expanding Medicaid benefits all of Mississippi: employers, pregnant mothers, working families, caregivers, medical providers, and local economies. With so many suffering from local hospital crises, the time to act is now to put this important part of the solution into place.

WORKPLACE JUSTICE

Promote Healthy Families and Productive Workers and fulfill the promise of equal pay for Black women.

Working women know the burden of difficult choices when tending to serious illness in themselves or

loved ones in their care. Paid family & medical leave would ensure that women can take the time they need to care for themselves and their loved ones without sacrificing their income or savings. This program would also help employers by boosting employee retention, lowering turnover, boosting productivity, and improving morale.

Laws passed in Mississippi to address equal pay fail to address wage and race discrimination based on salary history — a persistent driver of lower pay, especially for Black women. We will support bills that better meet the promise of equal pay.

VOTING RIGHTS

Ensure everyone eligible, particularly Black women, can register and vote without facing unnecessary obstacles.

While 35 other states—a supermajority—have ended lifetime disenfranchisement for felonies,

Mississippi continues to exclude these votes, even after the offender has completed his or her debt to society. This leaves the individual's rehabilitation back into society unfinished. Too many voices, including many Black women, are not included in our state's vote, and restoring voting rights is a sacred obligation of our democracy.

RACIAL DISCRIMINATION

Close the hidden loopholes that allow modern discrimination based on hair texture that disproportionately impacts Black women.

Despite some gains in ending overt racial discrimination in public life, the reality faced by many people of color is that something as simple as the natural texture of their hair can become grounds for disciplinary action. It's time to respect individuals' freedom to go to work or attend school with their natural hair style and without the fear of punishment for being who they are.

CRIMINAL JUSTICE

Expand economic opportunity for justice-impacted Black women.

Policies that expand economic opportunities for those formerly incarcerated create opportunities to successfully rejoin society and keep our communities safe. We'll support bills that expand work release, training programs, and transitional housing for those who often face the greatest barriers - women.