



SCLC
Southern Christian Leadership Conference
of Southern California

December 5, 2020

The Honorable Gavin Newsom
Governor of California
1303 10th Street, Suite 1173
Sacramento CA 95814

Re: Appointment to fill the U.S. Senate Seat of Vice President-Elect Kamala D Harris

Dear Governor Newsom,

Today, we the undersigned are raising our collective voices to advocate for you to fill the vacancy that will be left by the only Black woman in the United State Senate, Vice President-Elect Kamala Harris, with another Black woman, because diversity and inclusion matters.

We believe that you are fortunate to have two qualified, dynamic, 'ready on day one' leaders to consider, Congressmember Karen Bass or Congressmember Barbara Lee. Governor Newsom we also believe that you understand the importance of representation at the decision-making table and while one is not enough, zero is unacceptable.

We would find any appointment other than Karen Bass or Barbara Lee to carry-out the remainder of Vice President- Elect Harris' term as a step backwards in our struggle for equity and justice for all. Thank you for your consideration.

If you have any questions, please contact Pastor William D Smart Jr at 213-268-4820.

In Solidarity,

Pastor William D Smart, Jr., President/CEO, SCLC of Southern California
Pastor Thembeikia Smart, President, Women of SCLC of Southern California
Alice Goff, Chairperson, SCLC of Southern California
Barbara R. Arnwin, Esq., Los Angeles CA
Dr. Maulana Karenga, Executive Director, African American Cultural Center
Seba Chimbuko Tembo, Associate Director, African American Cultural Center



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Minnie Hadley-Hempstead, President, NAACP Los Angeles
Bobbie Jean Anderson, Member, LA County Central Committee
Rabbi Aryeh Cohen, Los Angeles CA
Jackie Ryan, Vice-Chair, Black Community Clergy and Labor Alliance
Rev. Jonathan Moseley, Western Regional Director, National Action Network
Charisse Bremond, President/CEO, Brotherhood Crusade
Cheryl Branch, Chair, Califia NOW, Chapter of Greater Los Angeles
M. Anthony Guynn, Founder/CEO, Guynn Family Foundation
Rev. John Cager, President, African American Episcopal Ministerial Alliance of Southern California
Adoja Jones, South L.A./South Bay African American Infant & Maternal Mortality Action Team
Arnette Mack, President, National Council of Negro Women, View Park Section
Rev. Oliver Buie, National Co-Chair, Black Men for Biden/Harris
Yvonne Wheeler, City of Refuge, Los Angeles CA
Patricia Sanders, Vice-Chair, Los Angeles County Central Committee
Kelly Redmond, CEO, Impact Media & Entertainment Coalition
Janet D Kelly, Los Angeles CA
Sandi Cook, Voter Engagement Director, SCLC of Southern California
Dr Melina Abdulla, BLM, Los Angeles
Greg Akili, Founder, Fannie Lou Hamer Institute
Pastor William Monroe Campbell II, Sr. Pastor, Mount Gilead MBC, Los Angeles CA
Rev. James I. Jones Jr, Founder, Gangsters for Christ
Thea Williams, President, Los Angeles Black Pride