

## **BLACK TO THE FUTURE ACTION FUND 2022 CANDIDATE QUESTIONNAIRE**

**The Black to the Future Action Fund is a 501(c)4 project that works to transform Black communities into constituencies that build Black political power in cities and states. We work to enact policy that improves the lives of Black people and to elect Black and pro-Black legislators with progressive values who move progressive policies. Together, we work to ensure that Black people have what all people deserve--dignity, safety, and power.**

Our Black Agenda -- a policy framework for how we'll make Black communities powerful -- is a set of economic goals and structural changes that hold our government accountable to our communities and to making us powerful in all aspects of our lives, with politics being no exception. The Agenda is a result of the Black Census Project, the largest survey of Black communities in America in over 157 years, reaching more than 30,000 Black people in all fifty states.

We deserve and demand thoughtful, visionary, and alternative policies that address the issues important to us. Securing Black futures requires ambitious, innovative, problem-solving that disrupts the status quo. This is why we work to enact policies and elect Black people and people who support Black communities to office--because we deserve to set the table, not just have a seat at the table. We need Black elected officials who represent our values, and transform those values into policies that lift us all. We need people representing us who don't just speak for themselves--we deserve elected officials who will bring us together to develop solutions to the challenges facing our communities, and who will fight to make those solutions the laws that govern us.

**The Black to the Future Action Fund will support candidates up and down the ballot who will fight for bold and innovative policies aimed at uplifting ALL Black communities in search of a more equitable and inclusive America. If this describes you, please fill out the candidate questionnaire and tell us why you should receive our endorsement.**

We ask to receive your responses to this questionnaire within two weeks of receipt for consideration by our Political and Executive Committees.

## **OVERVIEW:**

This questionnaire contains 6 policy sections. You must complete the full questionnaire to be considered for a Black to the Future Action Fund endorsement.

Candidate Name:

Email Address:

Cell Phone Number:

Campaign Website:

Campaign Twitter Link:

Campaign Facebook Link:

Campaign Instagram Link:

**ABOUT YOUR CAMPAIGN:** Please share some details about the office you're seeking and campaign plans.

Name of campaign committee:

**Campaign Address:** Please provide the street address, city, state, and zip code.

**Campaign Point of Contact:** Name, Role, Email, Cell Phone

**What office are you seeking? Please include a district number if applicable.**

Party:

Are you a 1st time candidate?

Are you challenging an incumbent?

Date of Primary Election?

If you have run for office or held office before, list the office and years.

Cash on-hand as of your most recent reporting date:

Raised and spent thus far:

Overall fundraising goal:

Please list key endorsements you have received up to this point.

*Without disclosing any non-public information about your campaign plans, projects, activities or needs, tell us about the community you hope to represent. What communities, groups, or populations make up your district? What is the voting behavior of your voters? What is the voting behavior of your district? Be as specific as possible. \**

Please share the racial and gender breakdown of your staff and consultants.

**ABOUT YOU:** Please tell us about yourself.

What are your preferred gender pronouns?

Do you identify as LGBTQIA?

**Do you identify as a person of color?**

**Please indicate which of the following you identify as:** Asian American or Pacific Islander, Black or African American, Latinx, Latino, or Hispanic, Native American or American Indian, White, Multiracial, Other, or Prefer not to say

**Are you an immigrant?**

**Tell us about your core values and vision.**

**Why are you seeking the Black to the Future Action Fund endorsement?**

**WHAT'S YOUR PLAN FOR GOVERNING?** *Without disclosing any non-public information about your campaign plans, projects, activities or needs,* tell us where you stand on the issues and how you plan to implement your vision.

**What are the three most critical issues impacting Black communities, your plan for making progress on these issues once in office, and engaging your community in the process?**

**At Black to the Future Action Fund, we believe that how one governs is equally as important as the policies they espouse. Please tell us about your political philosophy and approach to governance “by and for the people” and how that will positively impact Black communities.**

**How will you engage Black people in the process of designing solutions to the unique challenges faced by our communities? What is your on-going work to involve Black people in the process of governance?**

**Please share your top political and policy priorities for the first 100 days in office and describe, in detail, how they will impact the Black community.**

**For the next six sections, please indicate your position on each of the stated policy points. Provide a brief description of how these areas align with your own policy agenda. Be specific about how your policy agenda will benefit Black communities and how your approach to governance will engage Black communities directly and consistently in the decisions that impact our lives. Do not provide any non-public information about your campaign plans, projects, activities, or needs.**

**SECTION ONE:**

The first section of the questionnaire focuses on the economy, education, and closing the wealth gap. Please indicate whether you agree or disagree that the below statements are a necessary part of any economic proposal which seeks to uplift the Black community, followed by a brief description of how

these areas fit into your policy platform, touching upon impact to the Black community and how you'll engage those communities in solutions and governance.

**The Economy: Remove policies that lock us out of good jobs and invest in the health and wealth of our communities**

- Examine the impact of slavery in the U.S. and develop reparation proposals. [Agree or Disagree]
- Raise job standards. [Agree or Disagree]
- Make housing affordable. [Agree or Disagree]
- Invest in K-12 education. [Agree or Disagree]
- Make college affordable. [Agree or Disagree]
- Make taxes fair and invest in economic prosperity [Agree or Disagree]

**SECTION TWO:**

The second section of the questionnaire focuses on strengthening our democracy. Please indicate whether you agree or disagree that the below statements are a necessary part of any democracy reform proposal which seeks to uplift the Black community, followed by a brief description of how these areas fit into your policy platform, touching upon impact to the Black community and how you'll engage those communities in solutions and governance.

**Politics: Confront those who conspire to steal our votes and finally build the democracy that is promised to us all**

- Fully commit to taking all necessary measures to pass key voting rights and pro-democracy legislation into law. For federal candidates, this includes reforming and/or dismantling the filibuster. [Agree or Disagree]
- Restore voting rights to formerly incarcerated people. [Agree or Disagree]
- Fight voter suppression. [Agree or Disagree]
- Fix our broken immigration system. [Agree or Disagree]

**SECTION THREE:**

The third section of the questionnaire focuses on health and wellness. Please indicate whether you agree or disagree that the below statements are a necessary part of any healthcare reform proposal which seeks to uplift the Black community, followed by a brief description of how these areas fit into your policy platform, touching upon impact to the Black community and how you'll engage those communities in solutions and governance.

**Our Families: Challenge the people and practices that leave us living sick and dying younger and deliver the care we need to live long and live well**

- Establish universal health care for all. [Agree or Disagree]

- Incentivize health and wellness over “sick care.” [Agree or Disagree]
- Lower Prescription drug costs [Agree or Disagree]
- Ban predatory marketing and expand access to healthy foods [Agree or Disagree]

#### **SECTION FOUR**

The fourth section of the questionnaire focuses on white supremacy. Please indicate whether you agree or disagree that the below statements are a necessary part of any justice reform proposal which seeks to uplift the Black community, followed by a brief description of how these areas fit into your policy platform, touching upon impact to the Black community and how you'll engage those communities in solutions and governance.

**Our Culture: Reject the toxic culture of white nationalism by calling it out at every opportunity and in front of every audience**

- Enact legislation that classifies white supremacy as domestic terrorism [Agree or Disagree]

#### **SECTION FIVE**

The fifth section of the questionnaire focuses on climate. Please indicate whether you agree or disagree that the below statements are a necessary part of any climate reform proposal which seeks to uplift the Black community, followed by a brief description of how these areas fit into your policy platform, touching upon impact to the Black community and how you'll engage those communities in solutions and governance.

**Our Communities: Act on the climate crisis as a national priority before more of our communities are hit first and worst by disasters**

- Mitigate the climate crisis and reduce pollution [Agree or Disagree]

#### **SECTION SIX:**

The sixth section of the questionnaire focuses on the justice system. Please indicate whether you agree or disagree that the below statements are a necessary part of any justice system reform proposal which seeks to uplift the Black community, followed by a brief description of how these areas fit into your policy platform, touching upon impact to the Black community and how you'll engage those communities in solutions and governance.

**The Legal System: End the use of incarceration to solve the problems of migration, poverty, and disinvestment and return millions of us back to our families and communities**

- Invest in community safety, prevention and justice rather than the penal system. [Agree or Disagree]
- Hold police officers accountable for misconduct and use of force. [Agree or Disagree]

- Stop criminalizing poverty. [Agree or Disagree]
- Decriminalize marijuana. [Agree or Disagree]
- Forbid employers from asking job applicants to disclose criminal records. [Agree or Disagree]

**SOLIDARITY PLEDGE:**

I, \_\_\_\_\_, commit to “taking all necessary measures” to ensure the passage of legislation and to fully champion the interests of Black communities:

By **removing policies that block Black communities out of good jobs and investing in the health and wealth** of Black communities

By **confronting those who conspire to steal Black votes** and finally building the democracy that is promised to us all

By **challenging the people and practices that leave Black communities living sick and dying younger** and delivering the care Black people need to live long and live well

By **rejecting the toxic culture of white nationalism** by calling it out at every opportunity and in front of every audience

By **acting on the climate crisis** as a national priority before more of our communities are hit first and worst by disasters

By **ending the use of incarceration** to solve the problems of migration, poverty, and disinvestment and **returning millions of people back to our families and communities**

I also pledge to prioritize engagement with Black communities by taking the following actions:

1. Meet with the supporters, community, and staff of Black to the Future Action Fund on a regular basis.
2. Follow through on the commitments made as a candidate in my endorsement questionnaire.
3. Lend support through my public office and profile to the policy efforts of Black to the Future Action Fund and its entities.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date: