

December Meeting Minutes

AB 3121 TASK FORCE TO STUDY AND DEVELOP REPARATIONS PROPOSALS FOR AFRICAN AMERICANS

MEETING MINUTES December 7, 2021, 9:00 A.M. <https://oag.ca.gov/ab3121>

The meeting of the Task Force was conducted via Blue Jeans video and telephone conference at <https://primetime.bluejeans.com/a2m/live-event/bdgzebhd>.

Members Present: Chairperson Kamilah V. Moore, Vice Chair Dr. Amos Brown, Senator Steven Bradford, Dr. Cheryl Grills, Lisa Holder, Dr. Jovan Scott-Lewis, Don Tamaki, Assembly Member Reginald Jones-Sawyer, Monica Montgomery-Steppe.

1. Chairperson Welcome

Chairperson Moore welcomed everyone to day one of the December AB 3121 hearing and opened the meeting at 9:00 a.m.

Chair Moore called for a roll call attendance to establish quorum. Parliamentarian Dorothea Johnson called the roll. Members, present were Chair Moore, Vice Chair Brown, Member Bradford, Member Grills, Member Holder, Member Scott-Lewis, Member Jones-Sawyer, Member Montgomery-Steppe, Member Tamaki. Five members are needed for a quorum, and a quorum was established.

Chair Moore opened the meeting by giving a background on AB 3121, discussing previous meetings, and summarizing the agenda for the December meeting. Chair Moore then moved to public comment.

2. Public Comment

Aisha Martin-Walton provided directions for public comment. There were approximately 16 comments. Public comment was put on hold by Chair Moore pending additional commenters requesting to speak. Chair Moore announced that the Task Force would return to public comment after the next agenda item. A summary of the Public Comments follows; Public Comments reflected individuals, community organizations, business and education in support of reparations. They advised Task force members about the multitude in gaps between freedmen and others; legislation to prohibit government funding in schools and that attempted to stop Bruce Beach. One commenter wanted to know how a Reparations Task Force could be started in other states, and that Reparations should consider, farming, land and climate change. Numerous commenters thanked the Task Force for its work and appearances at local events. An announcement of an ETM Media Group Event on Reparations December 15, 2021 in Los Angeles was made. The chat function was requested to be turned on and it was requested that people be allowed to call in. Commenters wanted the Task Force to discuss the issue of eligibility and to invite Dean Chemerinsky of UC Berkeley to share his thoughts that lineage, not race should be considered when discussing eligibility. One commenter shared that California eligibility should be discussed and the harm to the descendants of chattel slavery. One commenter advised that the Task Force look at reparation programs in Detroit and that the Task Force should invite Shawn Rochester, author of “The Black Tax: The Cost of Being Black in America” to speak at a meeting. One commenter advised the Task Force about the Charles Drew Medical University (CDU) in Los Angeles, the only historically

Black graduate institution west of Texas and which produces the vast majority of Black physicians in California. The school is en-joined with UCLA who gets the credit for the diversity at CDU. CDU would like to gain autonomy from UCLA and received \$50 million from the CA legislative Black Caucus to begin this effort. The commenter advised that the vision for Reparations could help this effort. One commenter emphasized equity, access and protection equals lineage based reparations. Reparations should include business ownership strategies and community outreach.

3. Action Item: Approval of October 12-13 Meeting Minutes

Chair Moore called for a motion to approve the October Meeting Minutes.

MOTION: Member Grills moved to approve the October 2021 Meeting Minutes as corrected. It was Seconded by Member Tamaki.

Chair Moore called for **Discussion:** Member Jones-Sawyer and Member Bradford requested that the minutes be amended to show them as present. They were attempting to sign in when the roll was called. They also suggested that late arrivals be announced as they come in so that the board will know they are present. Parliamentarian Doreathea Johnson indicated that members were counted as they arrived and she agreed to coordinate with the Chair to make announcements as members arrive. There were no other questions or comments.

AYES: Chair Moore, Member Bradford, Member Grills, Member Holder, Member Scott-Lewis, Member

Jones- Sawyer, Member Steppe, Member Tamaki

NAYS: 0

NOT VOTING: Vice Chair Brown

ABSENTION: No abstentions

The vote was 8 members voting Aye, one-member not voting. The motion passed and the October 12 and 13, 2021 meeting minutes were adopted as corrected.

4. Witness Panel #1: Infrastructure

Chair Moore introduced each panelist prior, which is described below in the first paragraph preceding their testimony.

a. Expert Testimony: Dr. Joseph Gibbons

Dr. Gibbons is an urban sociologist interested in how neighborhoods affect the well-being of their residents. His research centers on how forces of ethnic racial inequality in the form of residential segregation and gentrification affect individual health and healthy behaviors. Community.

Dr. Gibbons discussed the impacts of Redlining introduced in the Federal Government's 1930's New Deal which detailed the criteria for investment and characterized Black neighborhoods as high- risk investments thereby adversely influencing the character and financial growth of those communities. As a result of Government Redlining, Black communities were not given the home financing support other communities were given

creating a substantial land wealth gap compared to other Non-Black neighborhoods. Now these same communities are attractive for gentrification and Government should take direct action to help Blacks directly and historically impacted.

b. Expert Testimony: Dr. Bruce Appleyard

Dr. Bruce Appleyard is an Associate Professor of City Planning and Urban Design at San Diego State University (SDSU) where he helps people and agencies make more informed decisions about how we live, work, and thrive. Working at the intersection of transport, land use, and urban design, he is an author of numerous peer-reviewed and professional articles to help practitioners form policies and practices toward achieving a range of sustainability, livability, and social equity objectives. He has expertise in the future of transport, street redesign for bicyclists, pedestrians and livability, climate action planning, smart growth implementation, transit-oriented-development around station & along corridors, and social equity analysis.

Dr. Appleyard discussed the inequities and discrimination against Black people that occurred from Redlining and described it as the following seven harms. 1) Being barred from mortgage assistance, 2) The building of highways through their communities, 3) The displacement through eminent domain, 4) Being forbidden from buying homes in White suburbs, 5) Being less served by the bus transit authority thereby restricting mobility, 6) Being vulnerable to police and traffic violence, and 7) Being over represented in the homeless population. These seven harms effectively created a form of American Apartheid that must be corrected. Dr. Appleyard also stated that high speed railways were also constructed to connect Non-Black neighborhoods and thereby bypassing Black neighborhoods. Dr. Appleyard offered reparations proposal ideas for these seven harms, including rezoning areas to allow starter homes, tear down highways and run them underground, banks should change policies to facilitate financing for home ownership and government should create anti-displacement programs for Black neighborhoods attracting gentrification.

c. Expert Testimony: Dr. Deborah Archer

Dr. Deborah Archer is a professor of Clinical Law and Co-Faculty Director of the Center on Race, Inequality, and the Law at NYU School of Law and president of the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU). Deborah is a leading expert in civil rights, civil liberties, and racial justice. She is an award-winning teacher and legal scholar whose articles have appeared in leading law reviews. Deborah has also offered commentary for numerous media outlets, including MSNBC, National Public Radio, CBS, Monocle, The Atlantic, and The New York Times.

Dr. Archer stated that the system of slavery is the foundation of racial inequality. She also discussed how the planned, developed, and deployed construction of highways and byways through, and around Black communities were designed by government to create walls, wedges, and barriers that would isolate and limit access to jobs, healthcare, and opportunities for Black families. She recommended corrections including direct payments for home and businesses that were lost or taken from them or taken for little compensation. Invest in those communities, remove or recess highways and try to weave communities back together and ensure these communities are not targeted again in the future.

d. Expert Testimony: Dr. Isaac Martin

Dr. Isaac Martin is a professor of Urban Studies and Planning at the University of California – San Diego. His mentorship of graduate and undergraduate students has been honored with four teaching awards at the University of California – San Diego. He is the author of numerous books and articles on such topics as housing policy, municipal taxation, and the political economy of inequality. His research has been covered on NPR and in the New Yorker and the Washington Post. His books have won awards from the American Sociological Association, the Pacific Sociological Association, and the Social Science History Association

Dr. Martin discussed the aspects of federally funded Housing Acts that created Urban Renewal projects in the 1930's and 1950's and the Community Redevelopment Law of 1951 in California that created Redevelopment Agencies to condemn and redevelop property. The purpose was to remake cities. These statutes, policies and projects had enduring adverse effects on Black communities thereby contributing to racial inequalities. Many of these redevelopment projects (i.e., the construction of freeway extensions such as Filmore, West Oakland, and the Nimitz Freeway) occurred in Black communities and caused the demolition of housing, schools, parks, and businesses. As a result of these projects, thousands of Blacks were displaced losing their homes and businesses. The property was not replaced on a one-to-one bases and the communities targeted were low income, Black and displaced. These harms were not in the distant past and should be corrected.

Task Force Comments and Questions

A video of the question-and-answer session followed the witness testimony. The witnesses' written testimony can be found on <https://oag.ca.gov/ab3121>.

5. Lunch

6. The Meeting Reconvened

Chair Moore called for a roll call attendance to reestablish a quorum. Parliamentarian Johnson called roll.

Chair Moore, Member Dr. Grills, Member Holder, Member Jones-Sawyer, Member Dr. Scott Lewis, Member Montgomery-Steppe, and Member Tamaki were all present. Seven members were present. Five members were needed for a quorum, and a quorum was established. Chair Moore resumed the meeting.

7. Witness Panel #2: Community of Reparations and Consideration of Economics Expert Darrick Hamilton Scope of Work; Review, Discussion, and possible Action Item

Chair Moore introduced each panelist, which is described below in the first paragraph preceding their testimony.

a. Testimony: Dr. Eric Miller

DR. ERIC MILLER is law professor at Loyola Law School where he teaches and writes about criminal law, criminal procedure, evidence law, and race and the law. He is interested in problem solving courts including drug courts, the law and sociology of policing, and reparations. His work includes developing national and local litigation and legislation strategies seeking reparations on behalf of the descendants of enslaved people and of victims of Jim Crow segregation and racial violence. In particular, he has worked for 20 years seeking reparations for the victims of the Tulsa race massacre, as well as being briefly involved with some of the lawyers representing the Georgetown 272 Descendants movement, seeking justice for the descendants of people enslaved and sold by Georgetown University.

Dr. Eric Miller discussed some of the aspects of research and requirements for establishing a case for entitlement that would pass Constitutional scrutiny and would help to prevent legal obstacles. He advised that this work effort should specifically include identifying who is liable and who is eligible using the premise of civil rights (Anti-discrimination laws), tax laws, and public nuisances that result in direct discrimination. He recommended that the Task Force try to identify the organizations, institutions and individuals who carried out the acts of racial oppression and identify their victims. Many are still around. Also, if the state is shown to be a passive participant in the wrongdoing by allowing the act to happen, then it can be held legally accountable. Reparations is a wrong-based remedy.

Chair Moore requested a roll call. Parliamentarian Johnson called the roll. Chair Moore, Member Holder, Member Grills, Member Jones-Sawyer, Member Scott Lewis, and Member Scott Lewis. Six members were present. Five members were needed for a quorum, and a quorum was established. Chair Moore resumed the meeting.

b. Testimony: Dr. Darrick Hamilton

Dr. Darrick Hamilton has a track record of innovative thought leadership and policy advocacy on issues including public investment, asset-building, wealth, and income generation; jobs and employment; health and family care; democracy and civic engagement; housing; and

creativity, culture, and the arts. In 2021 Dr. Hamilton has provided strategic advisory support to leading institutions ranging from the Detroit, MI-based Kresge Foundation to the Silicon Valley-based Omidyar Network. He serves as an appointed member of the New York City Racial Justice Commission. In 2021, Dr. Darrick Hamilton has provided expert testimony to important policymaking bodies including the U.S. Senate Banking Committee, the Joint Economic Committee, and the House Progressive Caucus. Dr. Hamilton is a university professor, Henry Cohen Professor of Economics and Urban Policy, and founding director of the Institute on Race, Power, and Political Economy at The New School. Mr. Hamilton was invited to share his scope of work in his contract with DOJ to provide a framework to assist the Task force in defining eligibility.

Dr. Hamilton stated in his community of eligibility discussion, that Whites have been privileged by government, land, and resources. Dr. Hamilton outlined and discussed the four basic categories of Reparation payments, they are: Cash, Assets, Institutions, and a combination of the above three. He advised that the original scope of work under his contract would require more time, resources and more engagement of specificity to define it more coherently.

Task Force Comments and Questions

A video of the question-and-answer session followed the witness testimony. The witnesses' written testimony can be found on <https://oag.ca.gov/ab3121>

8. Witness Panel #3: Gentrification and Homelessness

Chair Moore introduced each panelist, which is described below in the first paragraph preceding their testimony.

a. Expert Testimony: Brandon Greene

BRANDON GREENE is the Racial and Economic Justice Program Director for the American Civil Liberties Union of Northern California. In this capacity, Mr. Greene provides programmatic vision and leadership for advancing racial and economic justice in the state. He previously managed the Civic Design Lab in Oakland and was an attorney and clinical supervisor at the East Bay Community Law Center, where he helped create and lead the decriminalization of poverty clinic. His recent articles "Too Rich to be Poor: The Hypocrisy of Indigency Determinations" and "Mirror, Mirror: Anti Blackness and Lawyering as an Identity" were published in the Berkeley Journal of Criminal Law and the Harvard Black Letter Law Journal, respectively. His article "Depraved Necessities: Prison Privatization, Educational Attainment and the Path to Profit" was published in 2013 by SRBLSA Law Journal.

Brandon Greene's presentation focused on the homelessness in the Black community. Mr. Greene stated that based on a recent study, 30 -50% of all unhoused are Black. Even though the population rates of Blacks are in the lower percentiles of major California cities, the

unhoused percentage is extremely high. Throughout California, statistics indicate a disproportionate number of blacks are homeless because they are victims of unfair treatment including higher percentages of incarceration.

b. Expert Testimony: Pete White

Pete White was unavailable

c. Expert Testimony: Darrell Owens

Darrell Owens is a housing and transportation activist from Berkeley, California. Owens works at California YIMBY, a nonprofit focused on reforming land use laws, as a data and policy analyst. He has been extensively featured in national publications like the New York Times and the Atlantic for leading the movement to remove police from traffic enforcement. His work in building neighborhood support for housing with East Bay for Everyone, a pro-housing nonprofit based out of Oakland, California, has been heralded by the National Low Income Housing Coalition and UC Berkeley's Othering and Belonging Institute.

Darrell Owens Discussed the issues of gentrification causing the decline of Black housing ownership. Due to foreclosures, assessors under valuing Black property, and unfair lending practices, Blacks are being locked out of home ownership and are being forced to leave California in search of affordable housing and a sustainable way of life.

d. Expert Testimony: Zerita Jones

Zerita Jones is a native of Los Angeles, and proud matriarch of her family. She is the co-founder of her local LA Tenants Union where she hosts "Renters Rights" workshops. Zerita is also on the steering committee of End Homeless Now Campaign and founded a tenant's association of 425 units in her apartment unit to fight back.

Zerita Jones provided insight into the housing crisis faced by Blacks due to higher rates of evictions based on unfair practices and discrimination by landlords. Some practices involved evicting Black tenants through the court system long after they have moved out leaving evictions on their credit history jeopardizing future credit checks. This ultimately disqualifies them from renting. In many instances, when Blacks are paroled, from incarceration, they are not allowed to return to the rental properties where their families still reside and are typically forced into homelessness.

e. Expert Testimony: Damien Goodmon

Damien Goodmon is the Founder and Executive Director of the nonprofit Crenshaw Subway Coalition ("CSC"). As the successor organization to the Citizens' Campaign to Fix the Expo Rail Line, CSC seeks to empower stakeholder groups in the area of Crenshaw-Leimert Park-Hyde Park and highlight the issues of equitable and community-centered planning and development in the pursuit of racial and economic justice for South Los Angeles. As a result of the organization's efforts, over \$1.5 billion additional dollars have been invested in the mass transit infrastructure of Southwest Los Angeles, including the Leimert Park Village and Farmdale stations and the Crenshaw-LAX light rail line.

Damien Goodman opened his discussion by sharing his family heritage as a direct descendant of Colonel Allensworth of the historical Allensworth Settlement. Damien's plight for racial and economic justice for Blacks centers around land being the basis for freedom, justice, equality, and power. Damien stated that the Rent Gap created by hostile takeovers by white banks, foreign investors, Flippers, and AirBNBs is the root cause of gentrification of Black neighborhoods. This in turn makes housing unaffordable for existing Black residents forcing displacement from their homes and communities and in many cases eventual homelessness.

Task Force Comments and Questions

A video of the question-and-answer session followed the witness testimony. The witnesses' written testimony can be found on <https://oag.ca.gov/ab3121>

9. Break (10 minutes)

Meeting Reconvened

Chair Moore called for a roll call attendance to establish a quorum. Parliamentarian Doreathea Johnson called for the roll. Members present were Chair Moore, Vice Chair Brown, Member Bradford, Member Grills, Member Holder, Member Jones-Sawyer, Member Scott-Lewis, Member Tamaki. Five members are needed for a quorum, there were 8 members present and a quorum was established.

10. Discussion and Vote on Report Outlines; Review, Discussion and Possible Action item

Chair Moore provided an overview of the process they will use to review and vote on authorizing DOJ to proceed with the drafting of the Report. Chair Moore stated as a prelude, she would read an overview of each section individually prior to the discussion of the applicable section. Once all sections have been reviewed by the Task Force, a motion for a vote will be entertained.

Section 1 Slavery

After much discussion, the Task Force agreed that it is important to use terms that are more exact and truth telling. The report should use words that clearly maximize the understanding of the cruelty and deceit that occurred from an economical and psychological perspective throughout Black history. Chair Moore entertained a motion to establish an advisory committee to develop a language guide which would be incorporated into the report.

MOTION: Vice Chair Brown moved that the Task Force create an Advisory Committee of two members to develop a language guide or dictionary to incorporate into the Report. The motion was seconded by Member Bradford.

Chair Moore called for **Discussion:** Chair Moore agreed to lead this work effort. Member Jones-Sawyer agreed to also serve on this advisory committee. Parliamentarian Johnson called the roll for the vote.

AYES: Chair Moore, Vice Chair Brown, Member Bradford, Member Grills, Member Holder, Member Jones-Sawyer, Member Scott-Lewis, Member Tamaki.

NAY: 0

NOT VOTING: Member Montgomery-Steppe

The vote 8 to zero. The motion passes.

Section 2 Racial Violence

No Changes –

Section 3 Political Participation

No Changes –

Section 4 Housing

Task Force members suggested this section could also benefit from using more popular words that are descriptive and easily recognizable that will clearly define the issues, (i.e., Block Busting) This work effort will be included in the Advisory committee’s Language Guide.

Section 5 Environment

No changes –

Section 6 Education

The Task Force suggested including references and information from “The Education of Blacks in the South 1860-1935” by James D. Anderson. Specifically, to include some of the impacts of the Great Migration. The Task Force also recommended this section include information on the misalignment between the cultural and ethnic backgrounds of the teacher versus the student and the deficiency in the curriculum. Another suggestion was to discuss the continued disparities of Black and White students as it relates to expulsion and suspension rates as well as the adultification of Black girls in school and the push out path for Black boys and girls from school to the prison pipeline.

Section 7 Health

The Task Force would like to separate Public Health from Mental Health. The mental health aspect should address the generational terror, trauma, and horror of racial oppression.

Section 8 Family

No Changes

Section 9 Arts Culture, and Entertainment

The Task Force would like to include information on the impacts of the Capitalization of Black Culture by various industries including the anti-black narrative and stereotypes as it relates to reparations. This section should also include a discussion on the issues of copyright laws and the impacts of the right to ownership of creative work by Black Americans.

Section 10 Labor

No Changes

Section 11 Criminal Justice System

No changes

Section 12 Wealth Accumulation

The Task Force noted that there is a standalone section for Black women in the report. They would like to see a standalone section for Black men as well. They would also like to see incarceration addressed because it can directly affect employment.

Summary Statements

The entire Task Force commends DOJ for the extraordinary and comprehensive work done on the Report. Member Tamaki advised that the report connects the dots between past racism and its current consequences.

Chair Moore called for a motion to approve the outline and to authorize DOJ to proceed with drafting of the Report.

MOTION:

Member Tamaki moved that the Task Force approve the outlines and to authorize DOJ to proceed with a drafting of the Report. Member Scott Lewis Seconded the motion. Chair Moore called on Parliamentarian Johnson to call roll for the vote.

AYES: Chair Moore, Vice Chair Brown, Member Grills, Member Holder, Member Jones-Sawyer, Member Scott-Lewis, Member Tamaki

ABSTAIN: 0

NAYS: 0

NOT PRESENT: Member Bradford, Member Montgomery-Steppe (2)

7 members present and voting, 7 Ayes

The motion passed with 7 votes in support and zero against.

11. Department of Justice Updates; Information and Possible Action Items

Chair Moore turned the meeting over to Attorney Michael Newman for the DOJ update.

Attorney Newman thanked the Task Force for the review and approval for DOJ to proceed with the draft of the report. Attorney Michael Newman then announced that the DOJ updates will be discussed in length at the December 8th meeting. He did preview that some of the items up for discussion would include conflict of Interest codes, contracts and contract process requirements as well as implementing the Bagley-Keene procedure rules related to meetings. The shift from remote to in person meetings, meeting on Saturdays, and the addition of a January meeting on health. He reminded the Task Force members that their comments today would be folded into the draft report. He also mentioned that the cost of shifting from remote to in person may require an appropriation or budget change proposal. Attorney Newman agreed to take any new questions from the Tasks Force for overnight consideration to be added to the December 8th meeting.

12. Public Chat Function; Review and Possible Action Item

Chair Moore requested DOJ Attorney Michael Newman to provide some background on the Public Chat function that could be used during the Task Force meetings going forward.

DOJ Attorney Michael Newman provided the technical aspects of the Public Chat Function within the Blue Jeans platform. Public Chat is supported by Blue Jeans; however, it cannot be moderated once it is turned on.

Chair Moore opened the discussion to the Task Force to determine whether or not Members want the Public Chat Function to remain disabled. Task Force members expressed various concerns of the public Chat function, i.e., the inability to moderate against harmful or disrespectful language, questions and comments could cause a distraction from the meeting, Task Force members may be less focused on the immediate business issues and speakers, announcements should be voiced at the beginning of each meeting reminding the public that harmful language is not condoned. Chair Moore reminded everyone that the Public Chat function would no longer be needed after the January meeting because starting in February all meetings will be in person. Because the overall consensus of the Task Force is to always be transparent, Chair Moore took a poll to determine if a motion was in order. The poll rendered all 6 members present would approve a motion to restore the Chat Function in Blue Jeans. Chair Moore then called for the motion.

MOTION: Member Grills moved to reopen the Chat for the remainder of the December meeting and the January meeting. The motion was Seconded by Vice Chair Brown.

Chair Moore called **for Discussion:** Chair Moore added that communication should be made to the public that the Task Force does not condone any harmful or disrespectful language.

Parliamentarian Johnson called for the vote:

AYES: Chair Moore, Vice Chair Brown, Member Grills, Member Holder, Member Jones Sawyer, Member Tamaki

ABSTENTION: 0

NAYS: 0

NOT PRESENT: Member Bradford, Member Scott Lewis, Member Montgomery Steppe

Six members were present and voting. The vote was six members voting Aye, zero members Abstaining, zero members voting Nay, 3 members not present

The motion passed with six votes in support and 0 votes against.

13. **Recess until December 8, at 9:00am**

The December 7th Task force meeting was adjourned at 5:35 PM by Chair Moore.

December 8, 2021, 9:00 A.M.

14. Chairperson Kamilah Moore reconvened the meeting at 9:00am and welcomed everyone to day two of the December AB 3121 hearing and opened the meeting just after 9:00am.

Chair Moore called for a roll call attendance to establish quorum. Parliamentarian Doreathea Johnson called the roll. Members present were Chair Moore, Vice Chair Brown, Member Bradford, Member Grills, Member Holder, Member Jones-Sawyer, Member Scott Lewis, Member Montgomery-Steppe, Member Tamaki

Five members were needed for a quorum, there were 9 members present and a quorum was established.

Chair Moore turned the meeting over to Aisha Martin-Walton for the Public Comment.

15. Public Comment

Aisha Martin-Walton gave the instructions for public comment. There were twenty comments from the public. A summary is as follows. A request was made for the Task Force to write a letter to President Biden to sign an Executive order establishing a Commission at the Federal level similar to the Task Force in California. That the Task Force should adopt UC Berkeley Law School's Dean Chemerinsky's advice that reparations be based on lineage and not race in order to withstand a constitutional challenge. That all groups have higher levels of wealth than Freedman/Blacks. There is discrimination in entertainment careers such as business management, entertainment law, financial advisers and talent managers. It was recommended that the Task Force look at hiring and retention, include mandates for promotions to management and executive positions, consider small business loans where having a degree and ten thousand expert hours has as much weight as a credit score. There is discrimination in the media. New forms of media cause people to struggle. Are emails being sent to the Task Force? Hollywood is importing talent from other countries. Create incentives for Hollywood to use American Talent. The 1998 Telecom Act allowed large businesses to swallow small businesses including small radio stations. Just because you are Black does not mean you are entitled to Reparations. Two huge issues are homelessness and incarceration. Hollywood is assassinating the Black family. Regarding eligibility, Dean Chemerinsky is correct to tie reparations to lineage versus race. Engage the community and get them involved. Section 8 Housing. A too high credit score is required (630). There is a back log on inspections required to move into a Section 8 home which means more Black people find themselves without shelter. They are glad that the Chat Function has been re-activated. The Task force was invited to the 5th Reparations meeting on Saturday December 18 in Los Angeles. Universities discriminate against Black students in sports on college campuses. Look into discrimination in Hollywood unions. Seventy-five Billion will be spent on auto charging stations. Cash and land are top priorities and access to solar energy is important. Amend the mass media Group. There is not support from Film Commission and they are predominately white. Wrong Based Acts should be tied to lineage based eligibility. Don't wait to use your power until the end of the project.

16, Witness Panel #4 Entertainment Arts/Culture and Sports

Chair Moore introduced each panelist, which is described below in the first paragraph preceding their testimony

a. Expert Testimony: Arianne Edmonds

Arianne Edmonds is 5th generation Angelino, archivist, curator and founder of the J.L. Edmonds Project, an initiative dedicated to preserving the history and culture of the Black American West. She has curated exhibitions and presented her research about Black history, memory and legacy at cultural institutions like California African American Museum and Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture. Her family archives stretch back to the 1850's and her story as the keeper of her family archives can be found in the New York Times 1619 Project, The Root and LA Weekly. Ms. Edmonds is currently writing her forthcoming book for Oxford University Press, about the American Black press and her family's 20th century newspaper, The Liberator. In 2021, Ms. Edmonds became a Senior Civic Media fellow at USC Annenberg funded by the MacArthur Foundation and appointed one of the newest Commissioners of the Los Angeles Public Library

Arianne Edmonds shared her family history along with documentation spanning over 100 years. She told the moving story of her Great, Great Grandfather, Jefferson L. Edmonds who

had the insight and tools to document his story from slavery to freedom and then looking for a better life, migrated to California. He documented his trials and tribulations through slavery, freedom, racial discrimination, share cropping, passing of the 14th Amendment, followed by and voter suppression. Many of his struggles are still in plain sight today. Arianne Edmonds stated that reparations should also be about discovering and preserving our history and our search for true citizenship.

b. Expert Testimony: Dr. Darnell Hunt

Dr. Darnell Hunt is Dean of the Division of Social Sciences and Professor of Sociology and African American Studies at the University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA). Dr. Hunt has written extensively on race and media, including four books and numerous scholarly journal articles and popular magazine articles. He was lead author of UCLA's 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019 and 2020 Hollywood Diversity Reports, which provide comprehensive analyses of the employment of women and minorities in front of and behind the camera in film and television. Recently, he has worked as a consultant on film and television projects focusing on sensitive portrayals of race, ethnicity, and other social issues.

Dr. Darnell Hunt discussed some of the history of the Hollywood industry and explained that the industry was born at the height of the Jim Crow era, as a result was structured under the doctrine of white supremacy. Hollywood comes into every living room normalizing and glamorizing the mistreatment of Black Americans. The earliest campaigns and protest from organized groups such as the NAACP centered around the dehumanizing 1915 movie "Birth of a Nation". Blacks have a history of being excluded, under-represented, and underemployed in the Hollywood industry.

c. Expert Testimony: Erika Alexander

Erika Alexander is beloved for her iconic acting roles as Maxine Shaw ("Living Single," NAACP Image Awards as Outstanding Actress/Comedy Series), Detective Latoya ("Get Out"), Cousin Pam ("The Cosby Show"), Perenna ("Black Lightning"), Linda Diggs ("Wutang: An American Saga"), Barb Ballard (Run the World), and Meredith Lockhart ("Swimming with Sharks"). Ms. Alexander wears many hats, including actress, trailblazing activist, entrepreneur, creator, producer, and director -- one of the country's boldest, most daring, and powerful voices. As a creator, she recognizes that entertaining stories, when socially conscious and carefully constructed, have the capacity to create impact and meaningful change. As co-founder of Color Farm Media, she is on a mission to bring greater equity, inclusion, and diverse representation to both media and electoral politics.

Erika Alexander discussed the concept of influencing the reparations narrative by storytelling to address systematic racism. She said if you control the narrative, you will control the world. She introduced Master Storytellers for reparations such as Reverend William Barber II, Michael "Killer. Mike" Render, James Foreman, Kathern Brown, Yvette Carnell, and others. Ms. Alexander believes if we can change the narrative to re- create Blacks as human being, we can rebrand Blackness. Reparations is a healing from a nation that has yet to reform, repair, or apologize for its heinous history. Reparations can come in different forms, such as land grants, lotteries, Exemption from taxation, and forgiveness on federal loans.

d. Expert Testimony: Dr. Alison R. Jefferson

Dr. Alison R. Jefferson is a historian, heritage conservation consultant and a third generation Californian. She is a 2021-22 Getty Conservation Institute Scholar in Residence. Dr. Jefferson is currently doing research on the historical African American experience and public policies to conserve it in the California Coastal zone of the Venice district in Los Angeles. Her recent book, "Living the California Dream": African American Leisure Sites during the Jim Crow Era (University of Nebraska Press) was honored with the 2020 Miriam Matthews Ethnic History Award by the Los Angeles City Historical Society for its exceptional contributions to the greater understanding and awareness of regional history.

Dr. Alison Jefferson shared some historical background of discrimination in the Leisure industry along the Southern California coast during the Jim Crow era, Venice, Santa Monica, El Segundo, Huntington Beach and Manhattan Beach had popular beach front properties frequently owned or used by Blacks for recreation and leisure. However, Blacks were often forced out by local and state government. Some of this land stretched along Pico Blvd, 4th and Bay and Ocean Ave. The city claimed parts of this land from Blacks citing Imminent Domain and forced Blacks further inland. Bruce's Beach in Manhattan Beach is an example of government pushing Blacks off their own properties. Whites were often granted approval for land development while denying approval to Blacks for these same properties. In these cases, one part of reparations would be Blacks regaining what was previously owned.

e. Expert Testimony: Price

PRICE <https://www.instagram.com/theprice/> is proud to be from the West Coast. Coming up as one-half of rap duo Audio Push, the Inland Empire native is a true visionary when it comes to the art of creating music, having worked with all the industry's biggest names while still pushing his own solo artistry. On top of the music, he finds time to run 5 thriving businesses and still be a great father. PRICE has just released his first solo body of work, CLRD, a history lesson that will inspire black people to trace their history and set confident tracings for the present and future. PRICE's pen has been pushed for many (Travis Scott, Mariah Carrey, etc.) and it's refreshing to see his song making capabilities turn in his own direction.

Price shared his experience growing up in a community of racial discrimination living next to a family of KKK members while at the same time living a just blocks away from a Native American Reservation. This diverse community gave him insight into the benefits and reparations that other races have obtained. Growing-up, Price learned the importance of financial literacy and legacies, as well as the benefits of creating residual income.

f. Expert Testimony: Kevin J. Greene

Kevin J. Greene is a professor at Southwestern Law School in Los Angeles California. He has also been a practicing attorney representing some iconic clients such as Public Enemy, Eric B and Rakeem, Bobby Brown, and George Clinton.

Professor Greene's testimony focused on racial inequality and discrimination in the music industry. Black artists are still being exploited by the lack of appropriate compensation and credit for creative work done. Existing copyright laws have allowed in the past and is still

allowing businesses and agencies to own and control the creative work of Black artist leaving many penniless while those corporations are still benefiting and earning profits. Professor Greene also stressed the need for a national dialog to change Copyright laws so that equality and full acknowledgement of the contributions Blacks have made to the industry.

Task Force Comments and Questions

A video of the question-and-answer session followed the witness testimony. The witnesses' written testimony can be found on <https://oag.ca.gov/ab3121>

17. Lunch

18. Meeting Reconvened

Chair Moore Reconvened the meeting. Chair Moore called for a roll call attendance to reestablish quorum. Parliamentarian Doreathea Johnson called roll. Chair Moore, Vice Chair Brown, Member Bradford, Member Grills, Member Holder, Member Jones-Sawyer, Member Scott-Lewis, Member Montgomery-Steppe were all present. Nine members were present. Five members were needed for a quorum, and a quorum was established.

19. Subpoena and Information Request; Review, Discussion, and Possible Action Item

Member Holder and Member Tamaki gave an overview of their investigate work regarding subpoena power of the Task Force. Based on Article 4, Powers, Section 8301-3 states that the Task Force can:

- Hold hearings at any time and location in California.
- Can request attendance and testimony of witnesses
- Can request the production of books, records, correspondence, memoranda, and papers.
- All State agencies shall cooperate with the task force with respect to such information and shall furnish all information requested by the task force to the extent permissible by law.

Member Holder and Member Tamaki also explained the potential challenges the Task Force could face. Such as the time limitation, that at best, 3-6 months will be required to obtain documents. The Task Force ends June 2023 before documents could be received, Also, there may be third party resistance. Agencies providing the documents may not have the staff nor the time to make these request a priority.

Member Holder and Member Tamaki requested the Task Force allow them to continue their research on the practicality of using the subpoena power. Chair Moore called for a motion.

MOTION: Member Tamaki moved that the Task Force allow the Advisory Members to continue the exploration and evaluation process to determine whether there is a practical, efficient, and useful means to deploy investigatory tools; and if Advisory Members determine that there is a practical, efficient, and useful means to exercise the investigatory tools, Advisory Member Holder may instruct DOJ to deploy those tools. Member Scott Lewis Seconded the motion. Chair Moore called for **Discussion:**

Following the discussion, Chair Moore called for Parliamentarian Doreathea Johnson to call for the vote:

AYES: Chair Moore, Vice Chair Brown, Member Braford, Member Grills, Member Holder, Member Jones-Sawyer, Member Scott Lewis, Member Tamaki, Member Montgomery-Steppe
NAYS: 0
ABSTENTIONS: 0

There were 9 members present, 9 Ayes, 0 Nays, and 0 Abstentions

The motion passed with nine votes in support and 0 votes against.

20. Conflict of Interest Code; Review, discussion, and Possible Action Item

DOJ Supervising Deputy Attorney General Sarah Belton gave an overview of AB 3121, Article 5 which outlines the Conflict of Interest code. This code requires a statement form 700 to be completed by all members of the task force. To date all members of the task force have completed form 700 and have been filed with the Fair Political Practice Commission.

Ms. Belton stated that a Conflict of Interest form 700 should be required for all future consultants and new positions. Chair Moore Called for the motion.

MOTION: Vice Chair Brown moved that the Task Force adopt the Conflict of Interest code for all future consultants and new positions. Member Bradford Seconded the motion.

Chair Moore called for **Discussion**. There was no discussion.

Chair Moore called for the Parliamentarian Johnson to call the roll for the vote:

AYES: Chair Moore, Vice Chair Brown, Member Braford, Member Grills, Member Holder, Member Jones-Sawyer, Member Scott Lewis, Member Tamaki, Member Montgomery-Steppe
NAYS: 0
ABSTENTIONS: 0

There were 9 members present, 9 Ayes, 0 Nays, and 0 Abstentions

The motion passed with nine votes in support and 0 votes against.

21. Task Force Contracting; Discussion and Possible action Item

DOJ Attorney Michael Newman gave an overview of the contracting process for the Task Force. AB 3121 Article 5 states that the Task Force can authorize DOJ to enter into contracts that have been approved by the Task Force. Currently, there is no way for the Task Force to enter into a contract on their own vote or funding. Per AB 3121, the Task Force must go through DOJ. The contracts that are currently underway are:

- Marnie Campbell: Researching a compendium of racist and discriminatory statutes and regulations.
- Stacy Smith: Drafting the Institution of Slavery report item
- Dr. Darity and Kristen Mullins: Reparations economics experts
- Doreathea Johnson: Task Force Parliamentarian

Mr. Newman further added that if approved by the Task Force, Darrick Hamilton has been selected to research and develop methodologies for allocation of reparations.

DOJ Attorney Michael Newman then turned the meeting over to Member Grills to provide an update on

the most notable contract being the Interagency Agreement between UCLA and the Bunche Center as an example of the body of work being facilitated by the task force to support the Community Engagement work effort. Member Grills gave a comprehensive update on the successful implementation thus far of the UCLA and Bunche Center collaboration of work to establish Reparations listening sessions throughout the state. She advised that two communications firms and six anchor organizations were selected by the Bunche Center.

DOJ Attorney Michael Newman answered additional questions from the Task Force. Those questions and answers can be found on video at <https://oag.ca.gov/ab3121>

22. Break

Chair Moore Reconvened the meeting. Chair Moore called for a roll call attendance to reestablish quorum. Parliamentarian Doreatha Johnson called roll. Chair Moore, Vice Chair Brown, Member Bradford, Member Grills, Member Holder, Member Montgomery-Steppe were all present. Seven members were present. Five members were needed for a quorum, and a quorum was established.

23. Setting Future Meeting dates and Saturday Meeting Dates; Review, Discussion, and Possible Action Item

Chair Moore turned the meeting over to DOJ Attorney Michael Newman. Attorney Newman informed the Task Force that a Doodle Poll had taken and based on the quorum obtained, January 27th and 28th were selected for meeting dates of the January 2022 Task Force meeting. A quorum was not obtained for Saturday, January 29th. There was no quorum obtained for the February and March meetings as well. Because the Task Force will be shifting to public meetings travel availability should also be considered. Attorney Newman also urged the Task Force to determine the desired locations as well as if the upcoming meetings should be one or two days.

Attorney Newman reminded the Task Force that the remaining topics for discussion that were already outlined in the original proposal are:

- Public Health
- History of Policing and the War on Drugs
- Criminal Legal Justice System
- Legal considerations for Reparations
- Exploring Reparations in the form of Compensation
- Exploring Reparations in the form of restitution
- Exploring Reparations in the form of Rehabilitation
- Exploring Reparations in the form of Satisfaction Guaranteed
- Exploring Reparations in the form of non-Repetition

He stated that the Task Force needs to develop a plan to address the topics outlined in original proposal.

- **By consensus, the Task Force confirmed the January meeting dates**
The January task force meeting will be held the 27th and 28th as confirmed by the availability determined from the Doodle Poll.

MOTION: Vice Chair Brown moved that the Task Force rotate the meetings and make it proportional in terms of location. Member Jones-Sawyer Seconded the motion.

Chair Moore called for **Discussion**. There was no discussion and the question was called by Vice Chair Brown to end the debate. Chair Moore asked Parliamentarian Johnson to call the roll for the vote on ending the debate.

AYES: Chair Moore, Vice Chair Brown, Member Bradford, Member Grills, Member Holder, Member Jones-Sawyer, Member Scott-Lewis, Member Tamaki, Member Montgomery-Steppe

NAYS: 0

ABSTENTIONS: 0

There were 9 members present. 9 Ayes 0 Nays

The call for the vote to end the debate passed with 9 votes in support and zero votes against.

Chair Moore asked Parliamentarian Johnson call the roll for the vote on the Motion.

AYES: Chair Moore, Vice Chair Brown, Member Bradford, Member Grills, Member Holder, Member Jones-Sawyer, Member Scott-Lewis, Member Tamaki, Member Montgomery-Steppe

NAYS: 0

ABSTENTIONS: 0

There were 9 members present. 9 Ayes 0 Nays

The motion passed with 9 votes in support and zero votes against.

Chair Moore then asked Attorney Newman to resume his report. Attorney Newman stated that beginning in February 2022 meetings will be held in person. Consideration should be given to travel time and the possible reduction of days from 2 days to 1 day.

Based on the discussion around this topic the Task Force decided that an advisory committee should be formed to develop a proposal for restructuring the Task Force meetings of future face-to-face meetings. Chair Moore volunteered to serve and asked if Scott Lewis or Montgomery would consider serving. Member Scott Lewis accepted.

MOTION: Chair Moore moved that an advisory committee be formed by Chair Moore and Member Scott Lewis where they will look towards restructuring the public hearing proposal and then presenting a proposal to the Task Force at the January meeting outlining meeting times and locations. Member Tamaki Seconded the motion.

Chair Moore called for **Discussion**. There was no discussion. Chair Moore asked Parliamentarian Johnson to call the roll for a vote.

AYES: Chair Moore, Vice Chair Brown, Member Bradford, Member Grills, Member Holder, Member Jones-Sawyer, Member Scott-Lewis, Member Tamaki, Member Montgomery-Steppe

NAYS: 0

ABSTENTIONS: 0

There were 9 members present. 9 Ayes 0 Nays

The motion passed with 9 votes in support and zero votes against.

The Task Force discussed where they might hold the 1st in person public meeting that is scheduled for February. San Francisco, Oakland, Allensworth in Tulare County and the California African American Museum in Los Angeles were discussed as locations. Chair Moore asked for a motion.

MOTION: Member Bradford moved that the first in person public meeting of the Reparations Task Force for February be conducted in Los Angeles and specifically at the California African American Museum in located in Exposition Park. Vice Chair Brown requested that the first meeting be in San Francisco and recited historical events.

Member Bradford withdrew his motion. Chair Moore called for a new motion.

MOTION: Vice Chair Brown moved that the 1st in person public hearing of the Reparations Task Force be held in San Francisco in February 2022. Member Bradford Seconded the motion. Chair Moore called for **Discussion**. Member Jones Sawyer and Member Bradford provided examples of the rich Black history in Los Angeles. Member Tamaki encouraged proper press planning for all meeting. Member Bradford requested a 15 person van tour of meeting cites to share historical significance. Member Jones Sawyer suggested Oakland also be considered. Chair Moore asked Parliamentarian Johnson to call the roll for the vote. Parliamentarian Doreathea Johnson called for the vote:

AYES: Chair Moore, Vice Chair Brown, Member Bradford, Member Grills, Member Holder, Member Jones-Sawyer, Member Scott-Lewis, Member Tamaki, Member Montgomery-Steppe

NAYS: 0

ABSTENTIONS: 0

There were 9 members present. 9 Ayes 0 Nays

The motion passed with 9 votes in support and zero votes against.

MOTION: Vice Chair Brown moved that the 2nd in person public task force meeting be held in Los /Angeles. Member Jones-Sawyer Seconded the motion.

Chair Moore called for **Discussion**: Chair Moore recommended that the Task Force look into securing the California African American Museum for the meeting facility. Chair Moore asked Parliamentarian Johnson to call the roll for the vote. Parliamentarian Doreathea Johnson called for the vote:

AYES: Chair Moore, Vice Chair Brown, Member Bradford, Member Grills, Member Holder, Member Jones-Sawyer, Member Scott-Lewis, Member Tamaki, Member Montgomery-Steppe

NAYS: 0

ABSTENTIONS: 0

There were 9 members present. 9 Ayes 0 Nays

The motion passed with 9 votes in support and zero votes against.

24. Agenda for Next Hearing: Review, Discussion and Possible Action Item

DOJ Supervising Attorney Michael Newman shared the agenda for the January task force meeting. This meeting will address all aspects of health to include Public Health, Mental Health, and Physical Health. The outstanding issue is whether or not the Task Force wants to revisit the option of changing the meeting dates from January 27th and 28 to January 28th and 29th to include a Saturday session. Chair Moore felt it would be better to leave the meeting dates as is.

Chair Moore moved the next Task Force 2 day meeting will be held on January 27th and 28th. Member Montgomery-Steppe Seconded the motion.

Chair Moore called for **Discussion**: There was not discussion. Chair Moore asked Parliamentarian Johnson to call the roll for the vote. Parliamentarian Johnson had technical difficulty so Ms. Martin-Walton called the roll for the vote.

AYES: Chair Moore, Vice Chair Brown, Member Bradford, Member Grills, Member Holder, Member Jones-Sawyer, Member Scott-Lewis, Member Tamaki, Member Montgomery-Steppe

NAYS: 0

ABSTENTIONS: 0

There were 9 members present. 9 Ayes 0 Nays

The motion passed with 9 votes in support and zero votes against

25. Unfinished Business: Review, Discussion, and Possible Action Items

Dr. Darrick Hamilton was commissioned by the Task Force as an economic expert to develop the requirements for Bill AB-3121, Sub Sections E (Calculation for Reparations) and F (The methodology to use for Reparations' compensation).

Dr. Darrick Hamilton has recently informed the task force that he has decided to narrow his scope of work to Sub Section F only, the methodology to use for Reparations compensation and not Section E, which is doing the actual compensation. He did not have enough time, there were not enough resources in the contract and he was unclear how to tackle the calculations. Member Tamaki asked if you can separate the calculation from the methodology. Two people working on different parts of the contract could present a problem. Member Tamaki asked how much work Dr. Hamilton has done on the contract? Attorney Newman indicated that the contract has not been signed and Dr. Hamilton has therefore not done any reimbursable work. They only work that has been done is discussing the scope of work draft and preparing to discuss the scope before the Task Force. Chair Moore suggested looking to Darity for consideration as an economist who can recruit other economists such as Trayvon Logan. Member Tamaki references calculations in Darity's book 'From here to Equality'. Darity has stature.

After much discussion, the Task Force has concluded that Sub Sections E and F of Bill AB-3121 should be developed together. Therefore, the Task Force has decided to seek new economic experts for this entire scope of work. Chair Moore asked for a motion. Member Scott Lewis advises that Darity relies on several economists, including Craemer an economist who was an earlier expert before the Task Force. Member Grills advised caution with referring to Dr. Hamilton's characterizations as limitations and instead as cautions.

MOTION: Chair Moore moved that the Task Force not elect to proceed with Dr. Hamilton's contract. As an alternative, the Task Force contact Dr. Darity for availability and interest to convene a team of Economists to tackle Sub Sections E and Fin AB-3121 Bill Text. Vice Chair Brown Seconded the motion.

Chair Moore called for **Discussion:** There was no discussion. Chair Moore asked Parliamentarian Johnson to call the roll for the vote. Parliamentarian Doreathea Johnson called for the vote:

AYES: Chair Moore, Vice Chair Brown, Member Bradford, Member Jones-Sawyer, Member Scott-Lewis, Member Tamaki, Member Montgomery-Steppe

NAY: 0

ABSTENTIONS: Member Grills and Member Holder

There were 9 members present. 7 Ayes, 0 Nays, 2 Abstentions

The motion passed with 7 votes in support and zero votes against.

Chair Moore asked to amend to add to the agenda for January low hanging fruit or things that the Task force can act on prior to the end of the process, including a request mentioned in public comment for the Task Force to send a letter to President Biden. Low hanging fruit are small things the task force can act on. Member Tamaki suggested that low hanging fruit which are easily achievable actions which fulfill the mission of the Task Force. Chair Moore mentioned the racial equity guide by Ohio State and other Commission's work as examples of low hanging fruit. Attorney Newman advised that the DOJ might be able to assist in this effort.

MOTION: Chair Moor moved to amend the January agenda to add an item for low hanging fruit including the request during public comment for the Task Force to write a letter to president Biden to sign an Executive Order establishing a Reparations Commission at the Federal level. It was Seconded by Member Holder.

Chair Moore called for the **Discussion.** There was no discussion. Chair Moore asked Parliamentarian Johnson to call the roll for the vote. Parliamentarian Johnson called for the vote.

AYES: Chair Moore, Vice Chair Brown, Member Bradford, Member Jones-Sawyer, Member Scott-Lewis, Member Tamaki, Member Montgomery-Steppe

NAYS: 0

ABSTENTIONS: Member Grills and Member Holder

There were 9 members present. 7 Ayes, 0 Nays, 2 Abstentions

The motion passed with 7 votes in support and zero votes against.

26. Closing Remarks and Adjournment

Chair Moore and Vice Chair Brown thanked everyone for all that they have accomplished over the last six months. They are both extremely proud of the team and the grace in which everyone practices during the meetings.