



109th Congress

OFFICERS

Melvin L. Watt
Chair

Corrine Brown
First Vice Chair

Carolyn C. Kilpatrick
Second Vice Chair

Danny K. Davis
Secretary

Barbara Lee
Whip

MEMBERS

By Seniority in the
U.S. House of Representatives &
U.S. Senate

- John Conyers, Jr. MI - '65
- Charles B. Rangel, NY - '71
- Major R. Owens, NY - '83
- Edolphus Towns, NY - '83
- John Lewis, GA - '87
- Donald M. Payne, NJ - '88
- William Jefferson, LA - '81
- Eleanor Holmes Norton, DC - '91
- Maxine Waters, CA - '81
- Sanford Bishop, GA - '93
- Corrine Brown, FL - '93
- Jamee E. Clyburn, SC - '93
- Alicia Hastings, FL - '93
- Eddle Bernice Johnson, TX - '83
- Bobby Rush, IL - '93
- Robert C. Scott, VA - '93
- Melvin L. Watt, NC - '83
- Albert Wynn, MD - '93
- Bennie G. Thompson, MS - '93
- Chaka Fattah, PA - '95
- Shells Jackson Lee, TX - '95
- Jesse Jackson, Jr., IL - '95
- Juanita Millender-McDonald, CA - '98
- Elijah E. Cummings, MD - '88
- Julia M. Carson, IN - '97
- Donna Christensen, VT - '97
- Danny K. Davis, IL - '97
- Harold E. Ford, Jr., TN - '97
- Carolyn C. Kilpatrick, MI - '97
- Gregory W. Meeks, NY - '98
- Barbara Lee, CA - '98
- Stephanie Tubbs Jones, OH - '99
- William Lacy Clay, Jr., MO - '01
- Diane E. Watson, CA - '01
- Artur Davis, AL - '03
- Kendrick Meek, FL - '03
- David Scott, GA - '03
- G. K. Butterfield, NC - '04
- Barack Obama, IL - '05
- Cynthia McKinney, GA - '05
- Emanuel Cleaver II, MD - '05
- Al Green, TX - '05
- Gwen Moore, WI - '05

Congressional Black Caucus

of the United States Congress

2236 Rayburn Building • Washington, DC 20515 • (202) 226-9776 • fax (202) 225-1512
www.congressionalblackcaucus.net

May 13, 2005

The Honorable Cari M. Dominguez
Chair
Equal Employment Opportunity Commission
1801 L Street, N.W.
Washington, DC 20507

Dear Chairwoman Dominguez:

We are writing to express our grave concerns about the reorganization plan being proposed by the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission ("EEOC"). We are concerned that the proposed reorganization could weaken the EEOC and its ability to enforce federal anti-discrimination laws. We have also just learned that the proposed plan could be voted on by the Commissioners as soon as Monday, May 16. We believe that it would be a serious mistake to rush to a decision on this proposal without much more thorough evaluation, consideration and input from a number of parties.

The EEOC plays a unique and critical role in ensuring that our equal employment laws are respected by employers everywhere. We, therefore, believe that it is imperative that all aspects of the plan and a detailed justification for all proposed changes be provided to Congress and to the public before the proposal is adopted and implemented.

The information we have heard about the plan is troubling for a number of reasons. Reducing the number of district offices from 23 to 15, downgrading them to "field" offices and reducing the number of attorney positions could have a substantial, negative impact on investigation, resolution and enforcement of race discrimination charges across the country. Despite that fact, we are not aware that there has been any opportunity for public comment or input about the proposed changes.

We urge you to postpone consideration of this proposal and to take all steps necessary to ensure that Congress and all communities protected and served by the EEOC can review the proposal and comment on its impact before the vote by the Commissioners.

✓
Thank you for your prompt attention and response to this request.

Sincerely,



Melvin L. Watt
Chair, CBC



Eleanor Holmes Norton
Chair, CBC Judicial Taskforce
