MAGA's Anti-DEI Attacks Are a Trojan Horse to Take Away Our Civil Rights. Congress Must Refuse to Comply.

Dear Leader Schumer and Leader Jeffries,

We, the undersigned organizations, call on you and your caucuses to fight for our fundamental freedoms and to use every tool at your disposal to block, delay, and reject all legislation and all Trump Administration orders attacking efforts to rectify discrimination such as diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI) programs and attempting to take away hard-won civil rights.

The MAGA regime is scapegoating DEI to drag us back to a time when only wealthy, white men called the shots. We need leaders in Congress to refuse to comply with their attempts to destroy generations of progress toward equality. Last week, President Trump baselessly blamed DEI to justify his illegal attempt to seize federal funding for essential programs and even tried to point the finger at anti-discrimination measures for the tragic DC plane crash. In reality, it's his administration's firing and delaying of FAA hires that are making air travel more dangerous. In January, the incoming administration used this same strategy, blaming DEI for wildfires that ravaged Los Angeles instead of the fossil fuel billionaires that are fueling the climate crisis.

MAGA's anti-DEI attacks are a trojan horse to take away our civil rights. The Trump Administration has already used this strategy to revoke long-standing protections against workplace discrimination, freeze civil rights investigations and enforcement of civil rights law at the Justice Department, and to whitewash history curriculum. MAGA operatives have even published a "Blacklist" primarily targeting Black federal employees for harassment or worse because of their pro-equality work at public agencies. The purpose of all of these efforts is to cement white supremacist hierarchies in our society. Our leaders in Congress must refuse to comply. We need you to be fighters for our freedoms.

We call on Senate and House opposition to defend and deepen our freedoms by:

- using every tool at your disposal to block, delay, and reject all legislative and executive attacks on our civil rights, including bringing the chambers to a halt until the Trump Administration withdraws its authoritarian power grabs
- advancing legislation that defends and deepens our freedom to learn, be ourselves, and protest, and championing policies that create real equality by rectifying historical discrimination and repairing ongoing inequalities.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Signed,

<u>Get Free</u> along with the following organizations: Accountability Ignited AFT - Education, Healthcare, Public Services (formerly AFT - the American Federation of

Teachers AFL-CIO)

AFGE Local 3354

Alchemy Consulting, LLC

Bayard Rustin Liberation Initiative

Black Leaders Organizing for Communities (BLOC Wisconsin)

Blue Future

Bulletproof Pride

California Black Power Network

Disability Victory

Dream Defenders DMV

Endangered Species Coalition

Feminist Generation

Free Speech for People

Friends of the Earth

Fuse Washington

Generation Common Good

IfNotNow Movement

Inwood Indivisible

Jews For Racial & Economic Justice (JFREJ)

Kentuckians for the Commonwealth

Long Island Progressive Coalition

Movement for Black Lives (M4BL)

MOVE Texas Civic Fund

NAACP Youth & College

National Coalition of Blacks for Reparations in America (N'COBRA)

National Women's Law Center

Oregon (WI) Area Progressives

People Power United

Progress North

Reparations4Slavery

St. Paul Federation of Educators

Sunrise Movement

Texas Organizing Project

The Feminist Front

UltraViolet Action

Unitarian Universalist Association

United We Dream

We The People Michigan

Young Feminist Party