

A Tribute To Our Sisters



Juanita Millender-McDonald

September 7, 1938 - April 22, 2007



Julia Carson

July 8, 1938 - December 15, 2007



Stephanie Tubbs Jones

September 10, 1949 - August 20, 2008

Images of the 110th Congress



Congressional Black Caucus

Congresswoman Carolyn Cheeks Kilpatrick, Chairwoman

Joe Leonard, Ph.D., Executive Director

WWW.THECONGRESSIONALBLACKCAUCUS.COM



**Congresswoman
Carolyn Cheeks
Kilpatrick (MI),
Chairwoman, CBC**

Dear Family:

I am proud to have served as the 20th Chair of the Congressional Black Caucus. Our theme: '**Change Course, Confront Crisis, Continue the Legacy**' has been embraced by Members of the CBC throughout the 110th Congress. Over the past 24 months, we have left our finger prints on significant pieces of legislation and championed laudable causes designed to move America in a new direction.

Likewise, Members of the CBC have hosted impactful roundtable discussions with a cross-section of world leaders in an effort to unite our global community. One galvanizing force for the 43 – Members of the caucus has been the role of young leaders in shaping public policy. Through strategic outreach initiatives, we have engaged young people and incorporated their concerns and vision for America into our agenda.

During this historic period in American history, the CBC also endured painful losses. We celebrated the home goings of three of our beloved sisters and colleagues – Chairwoman Juanita Millender-McDonald (CA), Congresswoman Julia Carson (IN), and Chairwoman Stephanie Tubbs Jones (OH). Additionally, we honored the life and legacies of two founding Members of the CBC – Congressman Parren Mitchell (MD) and Congressman Augustus Hawkins (CA).

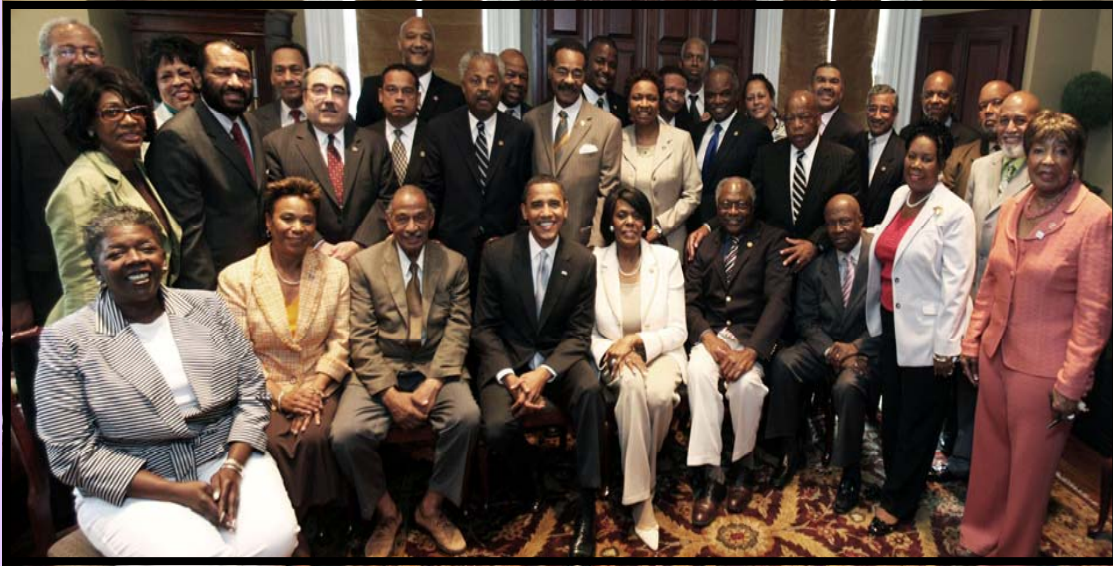
Members of the Congressional Black Caucus helped to author an epic chapter in political history – the election of the first African American to the highest office of the land. President-elect Barack Obama issued the clarion call of change, which resonated with American voters and mobilized our hopes for a stronger and more unified America. We are immensely proud and humbled by this awesome accomplishment. The CBC looks forward to working with President-elect Obama, our nation's 44th President of the United States.

In sum, the resolve and leadership demonstrated by all the Members of the Congressional Black Caucus has been phenomenal. As we stand at the threshold of change, I am confident the new CBC officers for the 111th Congress will continue to guide our efforts to build stronger and healthier communities across America.

God Bless!

Carolyn C. Kilpatrick

Chairwoman
Congressional Black Caucus



President-Elect Barack Obama

On November 4, 2008, the world witnessed an unimaginable triumph. The American people elected Senator Barack Obama to serve as the 44th President of the United States of America and the first African American to guide our nation. For 21 months, President-elect Obama energized our aspirations for change, while concisely articulating his plan to make the working class central to an economic recovery plan. His sensible strategy for revamping our nation's education and health care systems along with protecting American liberties both at home and abroad, amassed great support and served to clinch the election.

On January 20, 2009, when President-elect Barack Obama stands with his family and raises his right hand and places his left on the Bible, he will take his GOD-ordered place in history as the 44th President of the United States of America.

The Congressional Black Caucus is honored to call President-elect Barack Obama our brother, our colleague, our advocate and soon Mr. President. We extend our congratulations to Michelle, and their daughters Malia and Sasha. May GOD continue to bless them as we move forward as one nation.



Members of the Congressional Black Caucus

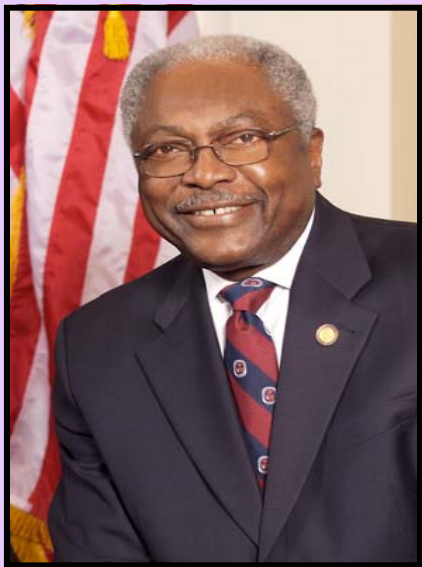


John Conyers, Jr., MI-'65
Edolphus Towns, NY-'83
Donald M. Payne, NJ-'89
Eleanor Holmes Norton, DC-'91
Sanford Bishop, GA-'93
James E. Clyburn, SC-'93
Eddie Bernice Johnson, TX-'93
Robert C. Scott, VA-'93
Bennie G. Thompson, MS-'93
Sheila Jackson Lee, TX-'95
Elijah E. Cummings, MD-'96
Danny K. Davis, IL-'97
Gregory W. Meeks, NY-'98
William Lacy Clay, Jr., MO-'01
Artur Davis, AL-'03
David Scott, GA-'03
Barack Obama, IL-'05
Al Green, TX-'05
Yvette Clarke, NY-'07
Hank Johnson, GA-'07
André Carson, IN-'08
Marcia L. Fudge, OH-'08
Charles B. Rangel, NY-'71
John Lewis, GA-'87
William Jefferson, LA-'91
Maxine Waters, CA-'91
Corrine Brown, FL-'93
Alcee L. Hastings, FL-'93
Bobby Rush, IL-'93
Melvin L. Watt, NC-'93
Chaka Fattah, PA-'95
Jesse Jackson, Jr., IL-'95
Donna Christensen, VI-'97
Carolyn C. Kilpatrick, MI-'97
Barbara Lee, CA-'98
Diane E. Watson, CA-'01
Kendrick Meek, FL-'03
G.K. Butterfield, NC-'04
Emanuel Cleaver II, MO-'05
Gwen Moore, WI-'05
Keith Ellison, MN-'07
Laura Richardson, CA-'07
Donna Edwards, MD-'08

* Listed in order of seniority

Congressional Leadership

When Democrats gained control of the United States Senate and House of Representatives following the 2006 elections, the threshold of hope for building a stronger and healthier America was expanded. Charged with helping navigate the new direction for America were key Members of the CBC, including: Congressman James E. Clyburn (SC), Congressman John Conyers (MI), Congressman Charles B. Rangel (NY) & Congressman Bennie G. Thompson (MS). Congresswoman Juanita Millender-McDonald (CA) & Congresswoman Stephanie Tubbs Jones (OH) also served as Committee Chairs before their passing. Millender-McDonald as Chair of the Committee on House Administration and Tubbs Jones as Chair of the Committee on Standards of Official Conduct. An additional 17 CBC Members earned positions as subcommittee chairs with jurisdiction over issues ranging from the federal budget, crime to housing and the environment.



**Congressman James E.
Clyburn (SC)**

Majority Whip

U.S. House of
Representatives



**Congressman John
Conyers (MI)**

Chair

Committee on the
Judiciary



**Congressman Charles
B. Rangel (NY)**

Chair

Committee on Ways & Means



**Congressman Bennie G.
Thompson (MS)**

Chair

Committee on
Homeland Security

Changing Course: Legislative Highlights of the 110th Congress

CBC Taskforces worked diligently on legislation that will shape the future of our nation. Here is a snapshot of our efforts:

Gulf Coast Recovery

CBC Members have worked on several pieces of legislation and secured billions of dollars for the impacted region. The following legislation was passed during the 110th Congress: Small Disadvantaged Business Disaster Eligibility Act; Hurricanes Katrina and Rita Federal Match Relief Act of 2007; Gulf Coast Hurricane Housing Recovery Act of 2007; Federal Housing Finance Reform; RECOVER Act of 2007 (Relief for Entrepreneurs Coordination of Objectives and Values for Effective Recovery); and the Disaster Surety Bond Enhancement Act.

Education

The College Opportunity and Affordability Act (the Higher Education Act Reauthorization) was one of the most significant education reauthorizations during the 110th Congress. The legislation increased the Pell Grant, simplifying the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA), improved HBCU funding (including Gulf Coast recovery efforts) and implemented a study to determine whether standardized admissions tests are inherently racially biased.

Nutrition and Agriculture

The Farm, Nutrition and Bioenergy Act of 2007 included an increase for federal funding for 1890 land grant institutions and provides new language to address outstanding claims resulting in *Pigford v. Veneman* for socially disadvantaged



Archbishop Desmond Tutu visits with CBC Members Kilpatrick (MI) & Rangel (NY).



Congressmen Clyburn (SC) & Jefferson (LA) lead Congressional CODEL with Speaker Nancy Pelosi (CA) to address Gulf Coast recovery.



Congresswoman Christensen (VI) & Chairwoman Kilpatrick (MI) sign the pledge to support the AARP Divided We Fail campaign.

Black farmers and ranchers. The CBC helped to increase the minimum benefit for the Food Stamp program and boosted the budget for nutrition programs by 46% over the 2002 Farm Bill reauthorization, with additional aid for Haiti.

Re-entry and Restoration

The Second Chance Act, classified as a revolutionary piece of legislation, was spearheaded by CBC Members to address the needs of the 1,700 individuals released from state and federal prison each day throughout the nation. It authorizes federal grants to government agencies, community and faith based organizations to provide employment assistance, subsidize abuse assistance, housing, family assistance, mentoring and victim support.

Children's Health Insurance

The State Children's Health Insurance Program (SCHIP) included provisions that would cover the maximum number of eligible uninsured children with comprehensive and culturally appropriate health care services and treatments.

HBCU Support

The Minority Serving Institution Digital and Wireless Technology Opportunity Act of 2007 establishes new grant programs with the Department of Commerce to provide \$250 million in 2008 for Minority Serving Institutions, including Historically Black Colleges and Universities. The law was constructed to address the technological infrastructure gap that currently exists.

Worker Rights

The federal minimum wage will be increased to \$7.25 an hour over the next two years. Nearly 13 million Americans will benefit.

The CBC introduced and significantly impacted other pieces of legislation throughout the session, including:

- * CBC Alternative Budget
- * Local Law Enforcement Hate Crimes Prevention Act of 2007
- * Emmett Till Unsolved Civil Rights Crime Act
- * Unemployment Modernization Act
- * Genetic Information Nondiscrimination Act
- * Section 8 Voucher Reform Act (SEVRA)
- * HUD McKinney-Vento Homelessness Assistance Grants Reauthorization
- * Health Equity and Accountability Act of 2007
- * Expansion of the President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR)
- * Youth PROMISE Act
- * GI Bill 2008

For more information about these and other CBC legislative efforts, please visit www.thecongressionalblackcaucus.com.

Confronting Crisis: CBC Headlines On The Events That Shaped 2007-2008

"The Bush Administration has turned its back on our fellow Americans, the victims of the greatest disaster on American soil in our generation. How can we talk about reconstruction abroad when we cannot help our fellow Americans at home?" **CBC Calls for Select Committee on Hurricane Katrina, January 30, 2007**

"America's study and support of Africa is critical to our future." **CBC Leads Congressional Delegation to Ghana for 50th Jubilee Celebration, March 2, 2007**

"All networks should adopt plans for inclusion that will foster the pronounced presence of women and minorities in decision making roles, as well as in the capacities of anchors, show producers and bookers." **CBC Reacts to the Firing of Don Imus, April 13, 2007**

"This case represents yet another tragic breakdown in the criminal justice system that unfortunately fails young African American males too often. It is unjust, unfair, and un-American." **CBC Calls for the Immediate Release of Genarlow Wilson, June 14, 2007**

"[We] have profound concerns about the commitment to equal justice and dignity of anyone who thinks that it is appropriate to call someone a "good ole n—r. To elevate such a person to the Fifth Circuit Court of Appeals, is completely unacceptable." **CBC Denounces Appointment of Judge Leslie Southwick, August 2, 2008**

"Jena, Louisiana has become the Selma, Alabama of the 21st Century. The overt racism and culture of intolerance surrounding this case should serve as a disturbing re-



Haitian President Rene Preval and CBC Members on an emergency visit to address the Haitian food crisis.



CBC Members Watt (NC) & Scott (VA) speak at a Congressional hearing on the Jena 6.



CBC Members announce Congressional action to take Nelson Mandela off the U.S. terrorist watch lists.

minder that America has fallen short of its promises to afford all citizens equal protection under the law." **CBC Applauds Release of Mychal Bell, September, 28, 2007**

"For our military to most effectively protect our interests at home and abroad, they must represent America and be led by a diverse group of Americans. Junior minority officers climbing the ranks need to see familiar faces serving as mentors and role models." **CBC Meets with Military Leaders to Revisit Diversity Within Senior Officer Ranks, October 16, 2007**

"We applaud the landmark 7-2 Supreme Court ruling and the Commission's decision to place principles before politics. Sentences for crack offenders are unconscionably high and disproportionately affect African Americans... It would be unfair and un-American not to apply the retroactive provisions to all citizens." **CBC Hails U.S. Sentencing Commission's Decision to Apply Crack Sentencing Guidelines Retroactively, December 11, 2007**

"In an era of unprecedented voter turnout for our nation's primaries, there has been not one incident of voter fraud. Regrettably, once again, the majority in the Supreme Court has distanced itself from common sense." **CBC Denounces Supreme Court's Indiana Voter ID Ruling, May 1, 2008**

"Haiti, the poorest nation in the western hemisphere, has been overwhelmed by malnutrition, famine, poverty and violence. Haiti is our neighbor and deserves prompt food aid, debt relief and Temporary Protective Status (TPS)." **CBC Renews Commitment to Combat Haitian Food Crisis, May 16, 2008**

"We are privileged to honor one of the greatest leaders of our generation. Nelson Mandela had fought to promote human dignity across the globe and we have fought to correct an erroneous listing of his organization to the terrorist list." **CBC Celebrates Nelson Mandela's 90th Birthday and Removal of the African National Congress from U.S. Terrorist Watch List**

"This funding has been a priority for the CBC because we know that minority communities were targeted for high cost, predatory sub prime loans and African-American neighborhoods haven been disproportionately affected by foreclosures. Although President Bush made repeated veto threats, the support of the CBC along with governors, mayors and housing advocacy groups made this victory for our communities possible." **CBC Fights for American Homeowners, July 23, 2008**

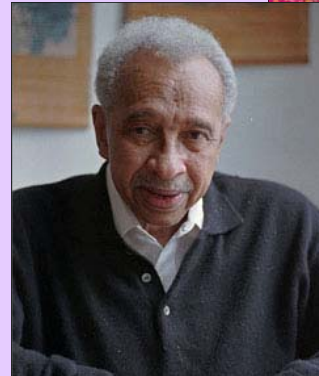
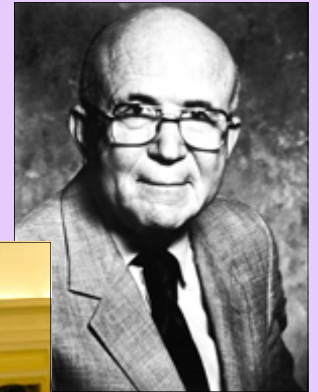
"Climate change is no longer an issue considered relevant solely by the environmental community. Across the country, African Americans are recognizing the urgency of encompassing environmental issues in our global fight for parity and comprehensive energy legislation." **CBC Lauds Commission to Engage African Americans on Climate Change, July 29, 2008**

"This monumental victory represents a significant shift in our nation's politics and priorities. It signals that we have made great strides in breaking down racial and cultural barriers that have historically paralyzed the full participation of Americans. We are proud and humbled by this awesome accomplishment. We are honored to call President-elect Barack Obama our brother, our colleague, our advocate and soon Mr. President." **CBC Celebrates Historic Victory of President-Elect Barack Obama , November 4, 2008**

Continuing the Legacy: Reaching Back While Pushing Forward

The CBC mourns the loss of champions who left us during the 110th Congress. We dedicate our future efforts to their lives and legacy of service to America:

- * Congresswoman Juanita Millender-McDonald (CA), *Chairwoman, House Committee on Administration*
- * Ms. Yolanda King, *Human Rights Activist and Actress*
- * Congressman Parren James Mitchell (MD), *Founding Member, CBC*
- * Mr. Oliver Hill, *Civil Rights Attorney*
- * Congressman Augustus Freeman "Gus" Hawkins (CA), *Founding Member, CBC*
- * Congresswoman Julia Carson (IN), *Member of Congress*
- * Congresswoman Stephanie Tubbs Jones (OH), *Chairwoman, House Committee on Standards and Ethics*



*"Each one should use whatever gift he has received to serve others, faithfully administering God's grace in its various forms. If anyone speaks, he should do it as one speaking the very words of God. If anyone serves, he should do it with the strength God provides, so that in all things God may be praised through Jesus Christ."
(1 Peter 4: 10-11)*

CBC Outreach, Training & Support

The CBC reaches into many corners of our communities through its affiliated organizations; the CBC Foundation, CBC Institute and CBC Political Action Committee. Please continue to support their efforts as they serve as supplemental arms of the CBC's legislative initiatives. More information about programming and events can be found on their websites.



CBC Foundation

Congressman Kendrick B. Meek (FL), Chair
www.cbcfinc.org



CBC Institute

Congressman Bennie G. Thompson (MS), Chair
www.cbcinstitute.org



CBC Political Action Committee

Congressman Gregory Meeks (NY), Chair
www.cbcpac.org

The CBC sends a special thank you to the CBC officers and staff of the 110th Congress. We would also like to thank all of the CBC Members who served in leadership roles on our various Taskforces and their staffs for their continued support and leadership on CBC endeavors.

CBC Officers of the 110th Congress

Congresswoman Carolyn Cheeks Kilpatrick (MI), Chairwoman
Congresswoman Barbara Lee (CA), First Vice Chair
Congressman Emanuel Cleaver (MO), Second Vice Chair
Congressman Danny K. Davis (IL), Secretary
Congresswoman Sheila Jackson Lee (TX), Whip

CBC Staff of the 110th Congress

Joe Leonard, Ph.D., Executive Director
Keiana Barrett, Communications Director
Irene B. Schwoeffermann, Coalitions Advisor
Brian Fernandez, Technology Advisor



Congressional Black Caucus

Congresswoman Carolyn Cheeks Kilpatrick, Chairwoman

Joe Leonard, Ph.D., Executive Director

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December, 2008