

I am the co founder of Ccaleovt. It is a grassroots organization focused on Accountability with Law Enforcement Officials.

As I imagine you are aware, racial profiling and the mass incarceration of African American men is a nationwide problem.

In a speech to law enforcement across the country, October 17, 2016 IACP Chief Terrance Cunningham said, For our part, the first step in this process is for law enforcement and the IACP to acknowledge and apologize for the actions of the past and the role that our profession has played in society's historical mistreatment of communities of color.

Vermont continues to incarcerate Black men and women at a disproportionate rate. I have lived in Vermont since 1974.

I work with returning offenders in their search for employment as they rebuild their lives.

I am also the vice chair of the BPD Commission, a member of the Board of Directors of Justice For All, a member of the VSP Fair and Impartial Policing Committee, a graduate of Burlington High School, and a member of New Alpha Missionary Baptist Church.

Years ago, I co founded an organization called Uncommon Alliance. The group did alot of work and pushed for police departments to begin race data collection. That was more than 10 years ago and police officers are still stopping, searching, using disparate levels of force and our courts are incarcerating black and brown people at an alarming rate.

Your committee's priorities as indicated on your website are in line with this H492 and it is your responsibility as public servants to see this through. Results Based Accountability needs to be more than a "catchy "phrase.

Workforce Development through sound Justice Reform means among many things, not incarcerating black and brown people disproportionately  
Removing barriers to employment through evidence-based justice reform practices - even misdemeanor charges are a barrier for black and brown people applying for jobs  
Saving precious state resources and lives - our current system spends state resources (\$40k or so per person)  
Using RBA - results based and evidence based evaluation in work  
the numbers are clear and something has to be done to change it!

On behalf of the Ccaleovt Steering Committee I urge you to support H492 in its original form. It is unprecedented and could change the history of Vermont in such a positive way!

Some elected/appointed officials seem to still be questioning the extent of the disparate treatment of black and brown Vermonters while the data from the Department of Corrections clearly states there is a problem.

H492 in its original form. It is the right thing to do. All Vermonters are impacted by our Law Enforcement and Judicial systems. It is time for change.

Sincerely,

Christine Kemp Longmore

Co Founder

CcaleoVT

Community Council of Accountability  
with Law Enforcement Officials