

Cleveland NAACP 12200 Fairhill Rd, Cleveland OH clevelandnaacp.org

October 9, 2023

Chair Peterson, Vice Chair Thomas, Ranking Member Humphrey, and all honorable members of the Government Oversight Committee:

My name is Kayla Griffin and I am writing on behalf of the Cleveland Branch of the NAACP to oppose the passage of Senate Bill 158.

The Cleveland NAACP strongly opposes Senate Bill 158, which is a blatant attempt to strip Clevelanders of their ability to decide for themselves on the question of a People's Budget. My organization believes Clevelanders have the right to make up their own minds on Issue 38. That's why we opposed SB 158.

Since the early 20th century, our branch has been dedicated to advocating governments to pass policies that were in the best interest, and on behalf, of all the most disenfranchised citizens, Black people. We know that when Black people, specifically, are positively centered in policymaking, the whole of our democracy is made the better. SB 158 is yet another attempt to preemptively undermine the will of the people.

We strongly oppose SB 158, and would be happy to speak with any members of the committee in more details about our opposition. Please feel free to reach out.

Sincerely,

Káyla S Griffin, Esq. President

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Chartered in Cleveland in 1912, the Cleveland Branch of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP), is a branch of the National Association. Founded in 1909, the NAACP is a membership based civil rights organization. The mission of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) is to ensure the political, educational, social, and economic equality of rights of all persons and to eliminate race-based discrimination. Learn more at clevelandnaacp.org