



**LOUISIANA  
LEGISLATIVE  
BLACK CAUCUS**

**CHAIRPERSON**

REP. JOSEPH BOUIE  
New Orleans, District 97

**VICE CHAIRPERSON**

REP. RANDAL GAINES  
LaPlace, District 57

**FIRST VICE CHAIRPERSON**

REP. JIMMY HARRIS  
New Orleans, District 99

**SENATE WHIP**

SEN. YVONNE DORSEY-COLOMB  
Baton Rouge, District 14

**SECRETARY**

REP. EDWARD "TED" JAMES  
Baton Rouge, District 101

**TREASURER**

REP. PATRICIA HAYNES SMITH  
Baton Rouge, District 67

**SERGEANT-AT-ARMS**

REP. KENNY R. COX  
Mansfield, District 23

**PARLIAMENTARIAN**

REP. VINCENT J. PIERRE  
Lafayette, District 44

**CHAPLAIN**

REP. PATRICK O. JEFFERSON  
Arcadia, District 11

**IMMEDIATE PAST CHAIR**

KATRINA R. JACKSON  
Monroe, District 16

**SENATORS**

REGINA BARROW  
Baton Rouge, District 15

WESLEY BISHOP

New Orleans, District 4

GERALD BOUDREAUX  
Lafayette, District 24

TROY CARTER

New Orleans, District 7

JEAN PAUL "JP" MORRELL

New Orleans, District 3

KAREN CARTER PETERSON

New Orleans, District 5

EDWARD J. PRICE

Gonzales, District 2

GREGORY TARVER

Shreveport, District 39

**REPRESENTATIVES**

JOHN BAGNERIS

New Orleans, District 100

BARBARA WEST CARPENTER

Baton Rouge, District 63

GARY CARTER

Algiers, District 102

A.B. FRANKLIN

Lake Charles, District 34

CEDRIC GLOVER

Shreveport, District 4

JEFFEREY "JEFF" HALL

Alexandria, District 26

MARCUS HUNTER

Monroe, District 17

SAMUEL L. JENKINS, JR.

Shreveport, District 2

EDMOND JORDAN

Baton Rouge, District 29

TERRY C. LANDRY, SR.

New Iberia, District 96

RODNEY LYONS, SR.

Harvey, District 87

C. DENISE MARCELLE

Baton Rouge, District 61

DUSTIN MILLER

Opelousas, District 40

BARBARA NORTON

Shreveport, District 3

**PRESS STATEMENT**

**February 26, 2018**



POST OFFICE BOX 44003  
BATON ROUGE, LOUISIANA 70804

(225) 342-7342

FAX: (225) 342-0364

email: [caucusb@legis.la.gov](mailto:caucusb@legis.la.gov)

[www.llbc.louisiana.gov](http://www.llbc.louisiana.gov)

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

Chairman: Representative Joseph Bouie

Executive Director: Cynthia Buggage

(225) 342-7342 Office • (225) 376-5940 Fax

**The Louisiana Legislative Black Caucus Maintains Its Stance**

**Baton Rouge, Louisiana.** The Louisiana Legislative Black Caucus (LLBC) has, since its inception, consistently advocated for the needs of all people of Louisiana. However, in recent years, the Black Caucus has, in effort to bridge the abysmal financial gap caused by the actions of the previous administration, sought temporary reforms with the understanding true fiscal improvement was forthcoming. Unfortunately, we understand now there is no desire for these recommended reforms-only more regressive taxes on the middle class and underserved while corporations and out of state interests continue to dictate how Louisiana should operate. But this stops today!

The LLBC understands reforms needed. We will not continue to build bridges to nowhere and allow republicans to hold the people of Louisiana hostage with their continuation of Jindal-esque schemes aimed at kicking the can into 2019 and beyond. If, I repeat If, all members of the House want to seriously improve the economic landscape of Louisiana, it is time they pick up a bucket and join us in carrying their own water. If they choose otherwise, they do so to the detriment of us all.

The people of Louisiana need to know a few things:

1. The Louisiana Legislative Black Caucus supports true permanent reform today.
2. The Louisiana Legislative Black Caucus supports fully funding the elderly and disabled via Medicaid expansion and waivers.
3. The Louisiana Legislative Black Caucus supports funding TOPS AND increased grants for those persons who want to continue their education and training in Louisiana.
4. The Louisiana Legislative Black Caucus does NOT support regressive taxes which disproportionately hurt the poor and less fortunate.
5. The Louisiana Legislative Black Caucus looks forward to working with the Governor and our colleagues on an expanded call for the next special session to properly address the concerns of the state.
6. We support transparency, accountability, and fraud prevention in all aspects of government, including tax benefits to corporations.

Finally, IF true reform is not the desire of the Legislature, it will not be because the Black Caucus did not attempt everything possible to ensure all the people of Louisiana are protected.

2

###

*Established in 1977, the primary purpose of the Louisiana Legislative Black Caucus is to raise the quality of life for those underrepresented, the indigent and working people through legislation, education and economic development.*