



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

March 30th, 2022

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**Black, Trans, and Queer Organizers Condemn Passage of Transphobic
and White Supremacist Legislation**

Call for Governor Ducey to Veto Anti-Trans Bills SB 1138 and SB 1165

PHOENIX – Black Political Cultivation Arizona, an all-Black and queer-inclusive collective organizing for the transformation of Black people’s quality of life, strongly condemns the passage of anti-transgender bills by the Arizona legislature, and calls upon Governor Doug Ducey to veto any and all legislation that targets Arizona’s Black LGBTQ+ community.

Many bills being considered during this 2022 legislative session are designed to harm, suppress, and erase Black queer and transgender people, and now two of these disastrous and discriminatory bills await Governor Ducey’s signature to become law.

Although SB 1165 is intended to target transgender student athletes, it will negatively affect all children participating in K-12 sports by enforcing a ban based solely on gender. This will usher in new era of bullying and gendered violence in the school environment—where Black children already face disproportionate discipline and abuse, because our kids are forced follow a White Supremacist mold of appearance and behavior.

Additionally, SB 1138 will criminalize life-saving transition care, targeting doctors’ ability to serve the young patients that rely on them for high-quality and equitable care. Black LGBTQ + youth are already far less likely to receive adequate professional healthcare, and this law will further deprive our community of fundamental resources for our wellbeing.

“We know that even in a climate without this extremist criminalization, 1 in 3 Black trans youth attempt suicide, and are 3 times as likely to attempt suicide as their cisgender peers. It is easy to see that if these bills become law, they will directly harm Black Lives”, **Este Amane, the organization’s nonbinary co-director and policy minister** said. “The supporters of these bills—which are part of vast and nefarious White Supremacist agenda—may have decided to throw away the lives of LGBTQ+ youth, but we will not let them follow through on that decision, and we won’t accept the state-mandated marginalization of our beautiful Black trans children.”

*To learn more about the work and vision of Black Political Cultivation Arizona,
visit bpcaz.org*

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“To be clear, trans people do not need to be legislated into the margins—they need to be protected and respected. Legislators have no place discriminating against Arizonans based on their gender, restricting access to medical care, or dictating an individual’s expression of gender identity in schools, in sports, or anywhere,” said **Parris Wallace, co-director**. “Under no circumstances should Governor Ducey sign these anti-Black bills, which will foster a climate of hate, and put vulnerable youth at mental and physical risk. It is time for the attacks on the LGBTQ+ community to end.”

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