

## Fw: Statement from the Black Political Caucus on Rep. Tricia Cotham



**From** Sylvia Grier <slg@genesisproject1.org>

**Date** 2023-04-05 14:54

**Subject:** Statement from the Black Political Caucus on Rep. Tricia Cotham

FYI

----- Original message -----

From: Black Political Caucus of Charlotte-Mecklenburg <blackpoliticalcaucus@gmail.com>

Date: 4/5/23 1:20 PM (GMT-05:00)

To: binettabell@aol.com

Subject: Statement from the Black Political Caucus on Rep. Tricia Cotham

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Caucus Family!

Please see attached for a statement in regards to Representative Tricia Cotham's announcement. As a candidate who was endorsed by the Black Political Caucus, her recent actions have been very concerning. As everyone knows, the Black Political Caucus is not partisan. Our concern lies with her recent votes, and change in values. Please see below for the Black Political Caucus' full statement

[Full BPC Statement](#)

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Date: April 5, 2023

Subject: Statement from the Black Political Caucus on Rep. Tricia Cotham

The Black Political Caucus of Charlotte-Mecklenburg is profoundly troubled and dismayed by the recent changes in values and priorities exhibited by Representative Tricia Cotham. As an organization dedicated to protecting and advancing the interests of the Black community and ensuring our voices are heard and respected, we will not remain silent in the face of such a critical development.

When we endorsed Rep. Cotham, we did so based on her commitment to fighting for women's rights, the right to vote, and the protection of African American rights. These values align with our mission and the aspirations of our community. However, her recent decisions raise significant concerns about her dedication to these essential principles.

Our endorsement of Rep. Cotham was a reflection of our belief in her ability to not only represent but also uplift the Black community. Regrettably, her shift in values appears to align her more closely with a political faction with a troubling history of policies and rhetoric aimed at suppressing the voices of marginalized groups, including African Americans and women. In embracing this extreme faction, Rep. Cotham has betrayed the trust we placed in her, and we fear that this decision may have severe consequences for the very people she was elected to serve. Rep. Cotham has a duty to represent and prioritize the interests of all of her constituents, regardless of political affiliation. We fear this change in affiliation could lead to a shift in her policy priorities or voting patterns, which may or may not align with the interests of her previous supporters. Additionally, it may cause a loss of trust and confidence in her among the black community. We would like her to demonstrate her commitment to serving her constituents who gave confidence in voting for her.

We call on Rep. Cotham to provide a thorough explanation for her sudden change in values and priorities to the BPC leadership, and to reaffirm her commitment to the principles she initially pledged to uphold. In the meantime, we will continue our work to protect the interests of the Black community in Charlotte-Mecklenburg and the state of North Carolina.

We must remain vigilant in holding our elected officials accountable for their actions, ensuring that they remain true to the promises they made during their campaigns. The Black Political Caucus remains steadfast in our commitment to endorsing candidates who genuinely represent the interests of our community and who will work tirelessly to advance the causes that matter most to us.

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