

Durbin Statement on Grand Jury Ruling in Breonna Taylor Case

September 25 2020 9:21 AM



WASHINGTON – U.S. Senate Democratic Whip Dick Durbin (D-IL), a member of the Senate Judiciary Committee, today released the following statement after the grand jury decision in the Breonna Taylor case:

“True justice for Breonna Taylor would mean that she would still be alive today. The fact that even accountability for her death remains in question is wrong. This underscores that the status quo is unacceptable when it comes to matters of race and policing in America. We owe it to Breonna Taylor for the Senate to take up and pass the comprehensive police reform policies included in the *Justice in Policing Act*.”

The [*Justice in Policing Act of 2020*](#) is a comprehensive approach to hold police accountable for misconduct, change the culture of law enforcement, and build trust between law enforcement and our communities.

Among other initiatives, the *Justice in Policing Act of 2020*:

- Prohibits federal, state, and local law enforcement from racial, religious and discriminatory profiling, and mandates training on racial, religious, and discriminatory profiling for all law enforcement.
- Bans chokeholds, carotid holds and no-knock warrants at the federal level and limits the transfer of military-grade equipment to state and local law enforcement.
- Mandates the use of dashboard cameras and body cameras for federal offices and requires state and local law enforcement to use existing federal funds to ensure the use of police body cameras.
- Creates law enforcement development and training programs to develop best practices and requires the creation of law enforcement accreditation standard recommendations based on President Obama's Taskforce on 21st Century policing.
- Improves the use of pattern and practice investigations at the federal level by granting the Department of Justice Civil Rights Division subpoena power and creates a grant program for state attorneys general to develop authority to conduct independent investigations into problematic police departments.

A fact sheet on the *Justice in Policing Act of 2020* is available [here](#).

When Durbin chaired the Senate Judiciary Subcommittee on the Constitution, Civil Rights, and Human Rights, he held several hearings on race in America, including his last hearing as Chairman in December 2014 on the State of Civil and Human Rights in the United States.