



Envision Freedom Fund

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ENVISION FREEDOM DENOUNCES GOV. HOCHUL'S PUBLIC SAFETY PLAN

NEW YORK, NY — In response to [news](#) of Governor Kathy Hochul's plan to expand bail eligibility in New York State, Envision Freedom Fund Executive Director Carl Hamad-Lipscombe issued the following statement:

“The bail reform laws enacted in New York in January 2020 are life saving. Not only did the reforms save lives by ensuring that s fewer cycled through city jails during a deadly pandemic, but thousands of people have been able to keep their jobs, housing, and families intact instead of being ripped from their communities while their cases were pending. The positive cumulative impact of these reforms must not be understated, especially in low-income communities of color that have been historically and disproportionately targeted by policing, prosecution, and incarceration.

“Governor Hochul's proposals are short-sighted, irresponsible, and contradicted by every piece of evidence reported about the impact of bail and pretrial detention on violence and crime rates.

“The time has come to solidly reject the notion that more punishment will prevent violence and embrace the data and research that prove community- and public health-driven interventions are far more effective. Senate Majority Leader Andrea Stewart-Cousins, Assembly Speaker Carl Heastie and other lawmakers must continue to stand against these baseless attacks on policies that protect the rights of Black, brown, low-income, and immigrant New Yorkers.”

Envision Freedom Fund (formerly Brooklyn Community Bail Fund) works alongside impacted communities to dismantle the oppressive and interconnected criminal legal and immigration systems. With freedom as our guiding principle, we invest in innovative campaigns and programs that aim to win long-term, transformative change, while meeting the urgent needs of community members in the present.

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