



Florida Legislative Black Caucus

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

May 22, 2026

**Contact: Representative Felicia Robinson, Chair
305-488-5490**

Statement from the Florida Legislative Black Caucus on Congresswoman Debbie Wasserman Schultz's Announcement to Run in CD 20

Tallahassee--The Florida Legislative Black Caucus is compelled to address Congresswoman Debbie Wasserman Schultz's recent announcement regarding her candidacy in Florida's Congressional District 20, a district with a rich history of Black representation.

For generations, Black Floridians have fought tirelessly for the right to vote and for that vote to result in meaningful representation. This fight has not been easy, marked by sacrifice, organizing, and the courage to overcome various forms of racial discrimination and exclusion. Today, as we face a crucial juncture in our history, we must reaffirm our commitment to protecting the political power of Black communities.

With only two remaining Black access congressional districts in Florida, the significance of representation in District 20 cannot be overstated. This district was established to remedy decades of racial exclusion and to ensure that Black communities have the opportunity to elect leaders who truly reflect their experiences and needs.

Congresswoman Wasserman Schultz's decision to pursue reelection in this historically Black district, despite explicit requests from the Black community to seek candidacy in a neighboring district, is disheartening. Prior to her announcement, Chair of the Florida Legislative Black Caucus, Representative Felicia Robinson, sought a meeting to discuss these pressing concerns. The absence of that dialogue demonstrates a lack of respect and engagement with the very constituents who are most affected by her candidacy.

This is more than a political issue; it is a pressing voting rights and civil rights issue. The residents of District 20 deserve transparency, engagement, and a genuine commitment to listening. Building trust with Black leaders and constituents should be paramount for anyone seeking to represent a majority-Black district. Unfortunately, the actions taken by Congresswoman Wasserman Schultz suggest a failure to prioritize these essential values, perpetuating a narrative of performative allyship rather than meaningful connection.

As the Florida Legislative Black Caucus, we are dedicated to preserving the hard-fought gains made in securing voting rights and representation for Black Floridians. We will continue our efforts to educate



Florida Legislative Black Caucus

communities about the importance of fair representation and to advocate for the protection of Black access districts.

We call on all Floridians to stay informed, engaged, and committed to the principles of fair representation and equal political opportunity. Preserving Black political voice is not only about honoring our history; it is about ensuring a future where every voice is heard and valued.

Florida Legislative Black Caucus
Preserving Voting Rights. Protecting Representation. Defending Community.

###