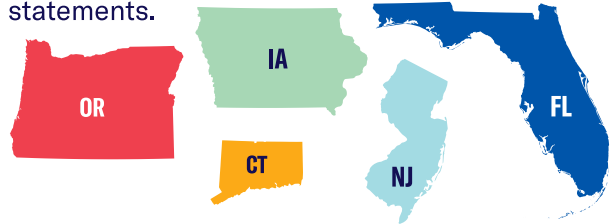


RACIAL IMPACT STATEMENTS

Racial impact statements give policymakers an opportunity to modify legislation that would worsen existing racial disparities before adoption and implementation. Black, Indigenous, and people of color (BIPOC) have borne the heaviest burden of the negative effects of certain policies throughout U.S. history, whether intended or accidental.

Racial impact statement would provide policymakers with the necessary tools to fully understand the potential impacts of proposed legislation on communities of color. This would allow policymakers to repair past harms and ensure all Kentuckians have access to an equitable future.

IN GOOD COMPANY: 5 states across the political spectrum have adopted racial impact statements.



HOW DO THEY WORK?

Racial impact statements function similarly to fiscal notes. In this case, they help lawmakers evaluate the potential unintended effects of proposed policies that could worsen racial disparities before adoption and implementation.

Practically speaking, it is easier to understand a policy's unintended consequences before adoption because it is more difficult to modify policy after implementation.

WHY KENTUCKY NEEDS THEM:

Kentuckians of color have already been failed by many existing policies. We must ensure future policies reverse this trend.

#1 Kentucky has the highest rate of felony disenfranchisement among African-Americans in the U.S.



Only 9% of Kentuckians are Black, yet Black people make up 22% of Kentucky's incarcerated population.

WAR ON DRUGS

The failed war on drugs continues to fail Black Kentuckians. Black overdose rates are up, but Black people are less likely to be prescribed life-saving medications.