

**Resolution Supporting U.S. Congressional Approval of
the George Floyd Justice in Policing Bill**

WHEREAS, the residents of the City of Detroit, through the 1974 City Charter, created the Board of Police Commissioners for civilian oversight and control of the police department to ensure public transparency and accountability; and

WHEREAS, one of the Board's mandates includes the review and approval of policy directives integral to the best organizational practices, procedures, and culture for community policing, crime reduction, and public safety. In this role, the Board routinely suggests revisions to policy directives and frequently is at the forefront of police reform; and

WHEREAS, the Minneapolis police killing of George Floyd on Memorial Day 2020 caused global outrage and led to protests against police brutality. As a mature oversight body, the Board quickly took action to ban strangleholds and to require a duty to intervene among other vital policy updates that helped Detroit provide concrete changes very quickly and reassure the public that its voices were heard; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Police Commissioners has called for federal action to provide consistent standards, accountability, and objective reviews of all law enforcement agencies. The Board has supported federal action as vital to stopping fatal police encounters like the one that killed Mr. Floyd and to ending non-fatal patterns of racial profiling and police brutality, and

WHEREAS, the George Floyd Justice in Policing Bill as sponsored by U.S. Rep. Karen Bass on June 8, 2020, and approved by the House on March 3, 2021, will achieve many of the Board's goals. House Bill 7120 will increase accountability for law enforcement misconduct, enhance transparency and data collection, and help eliminate racial profiling and other discriminatory policing practices. The bill also facilitates federal enforcement of constitutional violations like excessive use of force by state and local law enforcement. Among other things, the bill limits qualified immunity as a defense in civil cases against a law enforcement officer or state correctional officer, and authorizes the Department of Justice to issue subpoenas in investigations of police departments for a pattern or practice of discrimination. HB 7120 also creates the National Police Misconduct Registry to compile data on complaints and records of police misconduct; so

THEREFORE BE IT

RESOLVED, That the Detroit Board of Police Commissioners supports Congressional passage of HB 7120, known as the George Floyd Justice in Policing Bill, as vital to 21st Century Policing and to helping ensure the federal standards, accountability, and review for law enforcement agencies.