

Lawmakers advance CBM bills

Written by
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Over 60 community members attended the recent Council on Black Minnesotans (CBM) Community Meeting with Legislators. State Representatives Karen Clark, Raymond Dehn, and Phyllis Kahn, and Senators Bobby Jo Champion, and Kari Dziejczic addressed a packed room of active community members.

CBM chair, Patwin Lawrence, moderated the lively discussion with elected officials. Elected officials present committed to supporting and authoring our CBM legislative proposals, said CBM blogger Mohamed Mohamed.

Mohamed said Representative Rena Moran has agreed to author Educational Achievement Disparities Eradication, Higher Education Access Disparities Eradication, Healthcare Disparities Eradication and the Expansion of Council Duties bills; Representative Dehn has agreed to author the Full Employment Initiative in Labor Surplus Communities, Criminal Justice Disparities Eradication, and the Martin Luther King Jr. Violence Prevention Initiative bills; Representative Clark has agreed to author the Urban Fresh Food Access & Food Desert Eradication Initiative, the Urban Agriculture Land Use Planning Initiative, Healthcare Disparities Eradication bills; Representative Kahn has agreed to author the African Heritage Arts & Culture Preservation & Growth bills.

He said Senator Champion has agreed to author Senate versions of the Martin Luther King Jr.

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Violence Prevention Initiative legislation; and Senator Dzierdzic has agreed to author the Criminal Justice Disparities Eradication legislation, and has expressed serious interest in the Rochester Destination Medical Center Equal Access & Opportunity Planning bill.

Mohamed said, "Our meeting was successful because of the continued support of community. As we continue to hit milestones, the road ahead requires even more participation. We already have over two dozen volunteer leaders identified who will lead us in tracking and supporting our legislation throughout the process. The process ahead for each of our bills requires all hands on deck, so we are still looking for even more folks to volunteer. It can't be emphasized enough: community feedback and engagement is an essential element to this important process."