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**REPARATIONS POLICY FORUMS SET FOR JUNETEENTH
June 19, 2019**

The reparations debate has moved from the sidelines of political discourse firmly into the political mainstream as presidential contenders pledge to sign a reparations bill. Groups ranging from the House Judiciary Committee to the National African American Reparations Commission (NAARC), and the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) will convene hearings and forums on the issue on June 19. The date which commemorates the abolition of slavery known as Juneteenth.

Human rights attorney Nkechi Taifa has chronicled the movement's long trajectory in an essay [Reparations—Has The Time Finally Come?](#) for the ACLU. Taifa cites a 1783 petition for wages from Belinda Royal, a formerly enslaved woman through the movements of the 1960s to today. Taifa writes, "I have been in the reparations movement for nearly 50 years, and I've never been more optimistic about its chances for success." Taifa will also be a featured speaker at reparations forums sponsored by the ACLU and NAARC and the Washington Bar Association. Nkechi Taifa is founder and president of The Taifa Group, LLC. An accomplished human rights attorney, she is a justice system reform strategist, advocate, and scholar.

REPARATIONS FORUMS ~June 19, 2019

House Judiciary Subcommittee on the Constitution, Civil Rights, and Civil Liberties
hearing on H.R. 40, the *Commission to Study and Develop Reparation Proposals for African-Americans Act*.

10:00 a.m., 2141 Rayburn House Office Building

[Details](#)

**National African American Reparations Commission, ACLU to Host Forum on
Reparations**

1 – 4 p.m. Metropolitan AME Church, 1518 M St NW

[Details](#)

Washington Bar Association Second Annual Dr. J. Clay Smith, Jr. Lecture
Nkechi Taifa, Featured Speaker

5:30 p.m. Reed Smith located at 1301 K Street, NW

[Details](#)

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