



**Officers**

**Chair**

Judith L. Lichtman  
National Partnership for  
Women & Families

**Vice Chairs**

Margaret Huang  
Southern Poverty Law Center  
Derrick Johnson  
NAACP  
Thomas A. Saenz  
Mexican American Legal  
Defense and Educational Fund

**Secretary**

Fatima Goss Graves  
National Women's Law Center

**Treasurer**

Lee A. Saunders  
American Federation of State,  
County and Municipal Employees

**Board of Directors**

AFL-CIO  
American Association of People  
with Disabilities (AAPD)  
AAUW  
American Civil Liberties Union  
American Federation of Teachers  
American-Arab Anti-Discrimination  
Committee - ADC  
Anti-Defamation League  
Arab American Institute  
Asian Americans Advancing  
Justice | AAJC  
Common Cause  
Delta Sigma Theta Sorority,  
Incorporated  
HRC | Human Rights Campaign  
International Union, UAW  
Japanese American Citizens  
League - JAACL  
Jewish Council for Public Affairs (JCPA)  
Lawyers' Committee for Civil  
Rights Under Law  
League of United Latin  
American Citizens (LULAC)  
League of Women Voters  
NAACP Legal Defense &  
Educational Fund, Inc (LDF)  
National Congress of American  
Indians (NCAI)  
National Council of Jewish Women  
National Education Association  
National Fair Housing Alliance  
National Organization for Women  
National Partnership for  
Women & Families  
National Urban League  
People for the American Way  
Religious Action Center of  
Reform Judaism  
Service Employees International Union  
Sikh Coalition  
UnidosUS

**President and CEO**

Maya Wiley

March 26, 2025

Dear Member of Congress,

On behalf of The Leadership Conference on Civil and Human Rights, a coalition of more than 240 national civil and human rights advocacy organizations, I urge you to oppose S.J. Res. 18, which would overturn a Consumer Financial Protection Bureau (CFPB) rule that reins in overdraft fees charged by many of the country's largest banks. **The Leadership Conference intends to record your vote on this resolution in our voting record for the 119<sup>th</sup> Congress.**

In recent decades, many banks have used overdraft fees to rake in massive profits on the backs of consumers who are struggling to live paycheck to paycheck. They do so by exploiting a regulatory loophole that was meant to apply to paper checks. While overdraft charges are often pitched as a "courtesy" to consumers, they have historically worked as very high-cost loans, with fees that are often greater than any purchase being made. High fees have driven many people out of the banking system altogether, particularly people of color, people with low incomes, and people with disabilities.

As the text of the resolution notes, the CFPB rule applies to "very large financial institutions," with more than \$10 billion in assets. The rule lowers most overdraft fees charged by big banks from \$35 to \$5 and gives banks consumer-friendly options to cover overdrafts, including charging lower fees, linking to other consumer accounts, or offering fair and transparent overdraft lines of credit. The rule was finalized after some of the largest banks in the country voluntarily and laudably instituted their own major reforms of overdraft practices in recent years. The CFPB rule is crucial because it levels the playing field across all banks, rewards good actors, and builds overall consumer trust in the banking system.

For these reasons, The Leadership Conference urges you to oppose S.J. Res. 18. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Rob Randhava, senior counsel, at [randhava@civilrights.org](mailto:randhava@civilrights.org).

Sincerely,

Jesselyn McCurdy

Executive Vice President of Government Affairs