

Public Discussion Draft — Federal Data Accuracy for Black America

Questions for residents, researchers, civic organizations, and policy reviewers

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Status and public-use disclaimer

This proposal is published for public review and coalition-building. It has not been introduced in Congress and should not be read as endorsed, accepted, or reviewed by any office, agency, organization, political party, or elected official unless expressly stated.

Feedback and review prompts

How to use these prompts

These prompts are designed to improve the public discussion draft. They are not a vote, not a government form, and not a request for personal ancestry documentation.

Historians and genealogists

- Does the terminology accurately reflect U.S.-rooted Black lineage, American Freedmen, descendants of persons enslaved in the United States, and Free People of Color without overclaiming precision?
- Are any definitions too narrow, too broad, or likely to exclude communities unintentionally?
- What historical terms need footnotes, examples, or plain-language explanation for public readers?

Public-health and education researchers

- Where would better disaggregated data improve analysis of health, education, maternal outcomes, discipline, attainment, or access?
- What data-quality risks, nonresponse risks, or comparability issues should be tested before implementation?
- How should agencies protect privacy in small communities and small-cell reporting?

Fair-housing, lending, and labor experts

- Which employment, housing, lending, and civil-rights systems would benefit most from better Black ancestry and lineage data?
- What safeguards prevent data collection from being used to deny services, credit, housing, employment, or remedies?

- How should agencies avoid compliance burden while improving data accuracy?

Black civic organizations and community leaders

- Is the proposal easy enough to explain in a neighborhood meeting, church conversation, student forum, or civic association gathering?
- Does the framing build solidarity while naming distinct histories clearly?
- What concerns would residents raise first, and how should the public explainer answer them?

African-origin, Caribbean-origin, and Afro-Latino reviewers

- Does the proposal clearly distinguish identities without ranking or erasing any part of the Black experience?
- Would the response options allow people to select multiple identities without confusion?
- What examples or language would improve clarity and reduce misunderstanding?

Policy and legal reviewers

- Does the draft stay in the safer data-quality and civil-rights-monitoring lane?
- Are the privacy, voluntary-response, no-proof, and non-eligibility guardrails strong enough?
- Which sections need policy drafting refinement before any official filing?

General feedback checklist

- Is the proposal easy to understand for non-specialist readers?
- Are there terms that need clearer definitions or examples?
- Does the proposal protect people who decline to answer?
- Does the proposal avoid ranking identities or creating a hierarchy inside Black communities?
- Does the proposal clearly separate data collection from program eligibility?
- What should be tested before any agency uses the proposed question language?
- What would you change before this becomes a legislative or administrative proposal?

Feedback submission note

Use the KelvinForGeorgia.org coalition intake path only if you want follow-up. Do not submit sensitive personal records, genealogical documents, genetic test results, or confidential information as part of public feedback.