

Resolution in Solidarity with Opposition to
Reinstitute a Citizenship Question to the 2020 Census
May 19, 2018

WHEREAS, the Constitution mandates counts of *all* people, “actual Enumeration”, without distinction to citizenshipⁱ; and

WHEREAS, the U.S. Commerce Department agreed to the request from the U.S. Justice Department to reinstate a citizenship status question to the 2020 Censusⁱⁱ ⁱⁱⁱ; and

WHEREAS, given the current political climate, reinstating a citizenship question(s) would “fan the flames of fear and distrust in the Census”^{iv} and agreement by leaders that the reinstatement of the citizenship status question will “lower participation by immigrants”^v to ultimately result in lower enumeration; and

WHEREAS, lack of participation in the census threatens our democracy by interfering with an accurate count and consequently: 1) the number of seats at the U.S. House of Representatives; 2) electoral votes; 3) number of Legislative Districts; 4) Legislative District Redistrict mapping; 5) enforcement of Voting Rights laws; 6) equitable allocation of federal funds to communities; and 7) decisions impacting the all of the United States^{vi} ^{vii} ^{viii} ^{ix}; and

WHEREAS, States filed suit;^x and municipalities and advocacy groups have challenged the federal government in action;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that The Arizona Democratic Party stands in solidarity with all who oppose the reinstatement of the citizenship question on the 2020 Census because it attacks democracy, civil rights, and equity; and

BE IT RESOLVED that the Arizona Democratic Party will continue to oppose all efforts designed to:

- 1) reduce representation;
- 2) negatively impact Redistricting;
- 3) interfere with Voting Rights;
- 4) disenfranchise communities; and
- 5) disrupt equitable funding.

ⁱ “The Constitution of the United States: A Transcription”, United States Constitution, Article 1, Section 2, *U.S. National Archives and Records Administration*, accessed March 31, 2018, <https://www.archives.gov/founding-docs/constitution-transcript#toc-section-2> .

ⁱⁱ Press Release: “U.S. Department of Commerce Announces Reinstatement of Citizenship Question to the 2020 Decennial Census”, *U.S. Department of Commerce, Office of Public Affairs*, March 26, 2018, accessed March 31, 2018, <https://www.commerce.gov/news/press-releases/2018/03/us-department-commerce-announces-reinstatement-citizenship-question-2020> .

ⁱⁱⁱ Wilbur Ross, Secretary of Commerce, U.S. Department of Commerce, to Karen Dunn Kelley, Under Secretary for Economic Affairs, March 26, 2018, accessed March 31, 2018,

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https://www.commerce.gov/sites/commerce.gov/files/2018-03-26_2.pdf .

^{iv} Press Release : NALEO Education Fund Vows to Fight Against Addition of Citizenship Question to 2020 Census”, *National Association of Latino Elected and Appointed Official, (NALEO) Education Fund*, March 26, 2018, accessed April 2, 2018, https://d3n8a8pro7vhn.cloudfront.net/naleo/pages/134/attachments/original/1522172871/3_27_18_-_NEF_Statement_on_Citizenship_Question_Decision_-_Final_-_Updated_2.pdf?1522172871 .

^v The United Conference of Mayors to Wilbur Ross, Secretary of Commerce, U.S. Department of Commerce, February 6, 2018, accessed March 31, 2018, <http://www.usmayors.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/02/20180206-census-letter.pdf> .

^{vi} “About the Decennial Census”, *U.S. Department of Commerce, United States Census Bureau*, accessed March 31, 2018, <https://www.census.gov/programs-surveys/decennial-census/about.html> .

^{vii} “Distribution of Electoral Votes”, *U.S. National Archives and Records Administration, U.S. Electoral College Home*, accessed April 2, 2018, <https://www.archives.gov/federal-register/electoral-college/allocation.html> .

^{viii} “Home page, Mission”, *Arizona Independent Redistricting Commission*, accessed April 2, 2018, <https://www.azredistricting.org/> .

^{ix} Andrew Reamer, Research Professor, “COUNTING FOR DOLLARS 2020 The Role of the Decennial Census in the Geographic Distribution of Federal Funds Report #2: Estimating Fiscal Costs of a Census Undercount to States”, March 19, 2018, *GW Institute of Public Policy, George Washington University*, accessed March 31, 2018, <https://gwipp.gwu.edu/sites/g/files/zaxdzs2181/f/downloads/GWIPP%20Reamer%20Fiscal%20Impacts%20of%20Census%20Undercount%20on%20FMAP-based%20Programs%2003-19-18.pdf> .

^x Mike Maciag, “A Census Citizenship Question Wouldn’t Just Impact Blue States.” *Governing, The State and Localities, Public Safety and Justice*, March 28, 2018, accessed March 31, 2018, <http://www.governing.com/topics/public-justice-safety/gov-census-citizenship-question-states-localities.html> .