



SPONSOR: Rep. Schwartzkopf & Rep. Longhurst & Rep. Viola & Rep. D. Short & Rep. Hudson on behalf of all Representatives & Sen. McBride & Sen. Henry & Sen. Poore & Sen. Simpson & Sen. Lavelle on behalf of all Senators

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
149th GENERAL ASSEMBLY

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 99

RECOGNIZING THE IMPORTANCE OF THE UPCOMING 2020 CENSUS AND CALLING UPON THE GOVERNOR TO ESTABLISH A COMPLETE COUNT COMMISSION.

1 WHEREAS, the United State Constitution mandates that a census be conducted every 10 years in Article 1,
2 Section 2.

3 WHEREAS, the first census took place in 1790 and there have been 22 national censuses taken since, with the
4 next census scheduled for 2020; and

5 WHEREAS, the Bureau of the Census in the United States Department of Commerce is responsible for conducting
6 the census and the federal government is charged with funding the cost of the census; and

7 WHEREAS, it takes the cooperation and investment of states and local government working in conjunction with
8 the federal government to ensure that the census is fully executed and represents a complete and accurate count of the
9 people within each jurisdiction; and

10 WHEREAS, the results of the census are the foundation for many important decisions made by federal and state
11 government, including the disbursement of federal funds to states based on population;

12 WHEREAS, according to a George Washington University Study, *Counting for Dollars 2020*, the undercount of
13 Delawareans in the 2010 census translated to a loss of \$10.6 million in federal funding to the State of Delaware; and

14 WHEREAS, it will take the collaboration of community leaders, faith organizations, non-profit organizations,
15 local government, legislative leaders and the Governor of the State of Delaware to raise the public's awareness of the
16 importance of the census and to find ways to support the census efforts;

17 NOW, THEREFORE:

18 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the 149th General Assembly of the State of Delaware, the
19 Senate concurring therein, recognizes the importance of the 2020 census and calls on state and local government to begin
20 preparing their communities for the 2020 census.

21 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the General Assembly calls on Governor Carney to establish a "Complete
22 Count Commission" comprised of legislative leaders, executive branch officials, community leaders, representatives of

- 23 faith-based and non-profit organizations, representatives of local government and representatives of historically
24 undercounted populations to ensure that the State of Delaware is properly and fully counted in the 2020 census.

SYNOPSIS

This Resolution recognizes the importance of the 2020 census and calls on state and local government to commit to a complete count. Federal dollars are often based on the population count of each state and it is vitally important to ensure that the State of Delaware is fully counted to ensure accuracy in the disbursement of federal dollars. The Resolution calls upon the Governor to establish a "Complete Count Commission" for the purpose of ensuring the State of Delaware is fully counted in the 2020 census.