

2020 First Extraordinary Session

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 58

BY REPRESENTATIVES ST. BLANC, ADAMS, AMEDEE, BACALA, BAGLEY, BEAULLIEU, BOURRIAQUE, BUTLER, CARPENTER, CARRIER, GARY CARTER, WILFORD CARTER, CORMIER, COUSSAN, CREWS, DAVIS, DESHOTEL, DEVILLIER, DUBUISSON, DUPLESSIS, DWIGHT, ECHOLS, EDMONDS, EDMONSTON, EMERSON, FARNUM, FIRMENT, FONTENOT, FREEMAN, FREIBERG, FRIEMAN, GADBERRY, GAINES, GAROFALO, GOUDEAU, GREEN, HARRIS, HILFERTY, HODGES, HORTON, HUGHES, HUVAL, ILLG, JAMES, MIKE JOHNSON, TRAVIS JOHNSON, JONES, JORDAN, KERNER, LACOMBE, LANDRY, LARVADAIN, LYONS, MAGEE, MARCELLE, MARINO, MCFARLAND, MCKNIGHT, MCMAHEN, DUSTIN MILLER, GREGORY MILLER, MINCEY, MOORE, NELSON, NEWELL, CHARLES OWEN, PHELPS, PIERRE, PRESSLY, RISER, ROMERO, SCHAMERHORN, SCHEXNAYDER, SEABAUGH, SELDERS, STAGNI, STEFANSKI, THOMAS, THOMPSON, TURNER, WHEAT, WHITE, WILLARD, AND ZERINGUE

A RESOLUTION

To urge and request all state and local agencies and officials to utilize every available avenue and resource to promote and encourage response to the 2020 federal decennial census.

WHEREAS, every ten years a complete and accurate count of every resident is required by Article I, Section 2 of the Constitution of the United States, and this required federal decennial census is conducted by the United States Bureau of the Census; and

WHEREAS, census data is used to distribute federal funding to local communities and to determine electoral representation, including the number of seats each state is allocated in the United States House of Representatives, all of which are critical to Louisiana and its residents; and

WHEREAS, more than three hundred federal programs rely on data derived from the census to guide the distribution of funds to states, parishes, municipalities, and households, and the 2020 federal decennial census data will affect the allocation of approximately one and a half trillion dollars of federal funds; and

WHEREAS, even though invitations to respond to the 2020 federal decennial census were mailed in March of 2020 and Census Day was April 1, 2020, it is very disturbing that

as of June 24, 2020, the self-response rate in the state of Louisiana was only 55.9% compared with the national average of 61.7%; and

WHEREAS, it is estimated that every person in Louisiana who is not counted will cost Louisiana approximately three thousand two hundred dollars or more in lost federal funds; and

WHEREAS, due to the COVID-19 public health emergency, the United States Bureau of the Census has delayed the start of its non-response follow-up until August 11, 2020; and

WHEREAS, a significant amount of effort is required in order to achieve awareness of the importance of the 2020 federal decennial census and to obtain full participation and responses by all persons in Louisiana in the 2020 federal decennial census.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Representatives of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby urge and request all state and local agencies and officials to utilize every available avenue and resource to promote and encourage response to the 2020 federal decennial census.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to each statewide elected official, the division of administration, the Louisiana Municipal Association, the Police Jury Association of Louisiana, and the Louisiana School Boards Association.

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SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES