

2020 -- S 2880

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LC004905  
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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2020

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SENATE RESOLUTION

RECOGNIZING AND ADVOCATING SUPPORT FOR THE "CENSUS DAY OF ACTION"  
IN THE STATE OF RHODE ISLAND ON APRIL 1, 2020

Introduced By: Senators Cano, McKenney, Goodwin, McCaffrey, and Murray

Date Introduced: June 17, 2020

Referred To: Placed on the Senate Consent Calendar

1 WHEREAS, The 2020 Census will be critically important to the future of Rhode Island  
2 and even a minor undercount would have dire implications that would last for at least a decade;  
3 and

4 WHEREAS, Federal funds are disbursed based on population which is determined by the  
5 Census, and include funding for healthcare, infrastructure, housing, rural communities, and local  
6 municipalities; and

7 WHEREAS, A little more than 34 percent of Rhode Island's state budget is comprised of  
8 those federal dollars; and

9 WHEREAS, In addition, if initial estimates on Rhode Island's population figures hold  
10 true, the state is projected to lose one of its two United States House seats, which will critically  
11 impede Rhode Island's ability to ensure fair political representation in Washington; and

12 WHEREAS, One of the concerns to ensuring a fair and accurate count in the 2020  
13 Census for Rhode Island is that there are significant numbers of groups considered "hard to  
14 count," including immigrants who may or may not have legal status, non-fluent English speakers,  
15 low-income and homeless people, racial and ethnic minorities, and young people; and

16 WHEREAS, It is vital that all avenues of access to accomplishing a comprehensive and  
17 inclusive Census be pursued by businesses, media outlets, community organizations, and state  
18 and local agencies; now, therefore be it

19 RESOLVED, That this Senate of the State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations

1 hereby recognizes and supports the "Census Day of Action" on April 1, 2020, and the outreach  
2 efforts of local governments and community based organizations, particularly those with  
3 connections to traditionally hard to count and undercounted communities; and be it further

4           RESOLVED, That the Secretary of State be and hereby is authorized and directed to  
5 transmit duly certified copies of this resolution to the Honorable Gina Raimondo, Governor of the  
6 State of Rhode Island, and the Honorable Nellie M. Gorbea, Secretary of State.

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