

Dear Friends:

Thank you all for your continued support in the fight to protect the 2020 Census. The deadline for the census public comment period is rapidly approaching and **we need your help**.

On March 26, 2018, Secretary of Commerce Wilbur Ross announced that he had directed the Census Bureau to add a question on citizenship status to the 2020 Census. This alarming decision is bad for the census, bad for our communities, and bad for America. The Census Bureau has [invited](#) the public to comment on the 2020 Census, which will be an opportunity to create a strong, clear public record from a range of stakeholders and experts who oppose the addition of a citizenship question to the 2020 Census.

There is too much at stake to stand on the sidelines. Below are a few ways to get involved right now:

1. **Sign on to The Leadership Conference's comment (linked [here](#)) by COB Tuesday, July 31.** You can sign on by filling out this form: <https://goo.gl/forms/7Ivu7cSWJD2esdh1>
2. **Have your organization write and submit a comment.** We need to show the breadth of voices in opposition to the citizenship question. To download a public comments template with suggestions about how to personalize your comment, click [here](#). To download census citizenship question talking points that can inform public comments, click [here](#).
3. **Ask your individual members to submit comments.** Send an action alert to your members to submit a comment and tell the Census Bureau why the citizenship question is harmful to all communities. To download a sample action alert, click [here](#).
4. **Spread the word.** Amplify our message and encourage others to submit comments. To download sample letters to the editor, click [here](#). To download sample social media messages, click [here](#). To download social media images, click [here](#) and [here](#).

All of these resources and more can be found in the [2020 Census Public Comments Toolkit](#), which can be used to engage your members/allies in submitting public comments in opposition to the citizenship question.

You can submit your comment through a portal (<http://censuscounts.org>) established by census stakeholders, which will help census supporters keep track of the number of comments submitted to date. The deadline for comments is **August 7, 2018**.

We have one chance to get the census right; there are no do-overs. We hope that your organization will join the fight to protect the 2020 Census.

Please feel free to share this information with your networks.

Many thanks,
Vanita

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