



OFFICE OF
THE GOVERNOR

12 FY 19/20
NO. _____
DATE October 24, 2019

AN ORDER CREATING THE MAINE COMPLETE COUNT COMMITTEE

WHEREAS, Article I, Section 2 of the United States Constitution requires an enumeration of the population every ten years to apportion congressional representation among the states; and

WHEREAS, Section 141 of Title 13 of the United States Code requires that the next federal decennial census of the population occur on April 1, 2020 (2020 Census); and

WHEREAS, the 2020 Census will be used for Congressional reapportionment and redistricting, and for legislative redistricting, so having a complete and accurate count of Maine's population is essential for the fair representation of our citizenry in the U.S. Congress, Maine Legislature and legislative bodies of local government; and

WHEREAS, the 2020 Census will also be used in many important decisions made by federal and state governments, including the disbursement of billions of dollars of federal funds to states based on population; and

WHEREAS, Maine and its local governments will also use census data to assess the social and economic characteristics of certain regions and populations, and to determine the funding for infrastructure projects, economic development programs, education and training, and other services for those regions and populations; and

WHEREAS, the United States Bureau of the Census recommends that each state create a Complete Count Committee to ensure that every member of the population is counted, counted only once, and counted in the right location;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Janet T. Mills, Governor of the State of Maine, pursuant to *Me. Const. Art V, Pt 1, secs. 1 and 12*, do hereby Order as follows:

I. ESTABLISHMENT AND PURPOSE

The Maine Complete Count Committee (Committee) is hereby established. The purpose of the Committee is to develop, recommend, and assist in the administration of a Census Outreach Strategy (Strategy) to encourage full and accurate participation in the 2020 Census.

II. COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP

The Governor shall appoint the members and chair(s) of the Committee. Members shall include Commissioners or designees from the Departments of Administrative and Financial Services; Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry; Economic and Community Development; Education; Health and Human Services; Labor; Public Safety; and Transportation as well as the Director or designee from the Governor's Office of Policy Innovation and the Future and the Secretary of State or designee. The Committee may solicit participation from relevant experts and the chair(s) may appoint subcommittees as deemed appropriate. Members shall not receive compensation for their services.

III. COLLABORATION

In designing the state's outreach strategy to support and raise public awareness of the 2020 Census, the Committee shall collaborate with the United States Bureau of the Census, legislative leaders, the Governor's Office, state agencies, and leaders of local governments and community, faith and non-profit organizations. All departments and agencies of the state and local government shall furnish such advice and information to the Committee deemed necessary or desirable by the Committee to facilitate its work. The Department of Administrative and Financial Services shall provide administrative support for the Committee.

IV. OUTREACH STRATEGY

The Committee's Census Outreach Strategy shall include state-level initiatives developed within existing resources to reach the broadest audience possible, with attention to those residents who the U.S. Census Bureau identifies as traditionally undercounted in the decennial census process to ensure that the results are as accurate as possible. Such traditionally hard-to-count populations include, but are not limited to, racial and ethnic minorities; non-fluent English speakers; lower-income persons; undocumented immigrants; children; and mobile residents. The Strategy shall be designed to address the geographic and demographic challenges associated with the online response format of Census 2020.

V. REPORTS


The Committee shall submit an interim report to the Governor by December 31, 2019, recommending a Strategy to encourage full participation and to avoid an undercount in the 2020 Census. Thereafter, the Committee shall submit a final report to the Governor no later than March 1, 2020, specifying the implementation of that Strategy.

VI. EXPIRATION

The Committee shall expire on December 31, 2020.

VII. EFFECTIVE DATE

The effective date of this Order is October 24, 2019.



Janet T. Mills
Governor