RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, any official position of the City of Los Angeles with respect to legislation, rules, regulations or policies proposed to or pending before a local, state or federal governmental body or agency must have first been adopted in the form of a Resolution by the City Council with the concurrence of the Mayor; and

WHEREAS, the Decennial Census is one of the key functions of the US government and is described in detail in the US Constitution to ensure accurate representation of people of the United States; and

WHEREAS, many of the communities in Los Angeles face socioeconomic and demographic challenges that require targeted outreach plans in order to adequately identify and serve the population; and

WHEREAS, the 2020 Census is the first Census that will be performed primarily electronically, which creates additional barriers for low-income and immigrant communities; and

WHEREAS, the United States Department of Justice has proposed to include a citizenship question on the 2020 Census form, which may dampen participation rates in immigrant communities because of the Trump administration's emphasis on deportation and border security; and

WHEREAS, an accurate Census count is difficult to obtain, and adding additional questions increases the time required to complete the process of being counted and therefore deters participation; and

WHEREAS, the City of Los Angeles has a long-standing history of supporting immigrant communities through inclusive integration policies and programs;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, with the concurrence of the Mayor, that by the adoption of this Resolution, the City of Los Angeles hereby includes in its 2017-2018 Federal Legislative Program OPPOSITION to the Department of Justice's proposal to include a citizenship question on the 2020 Census questionnaire.

PRESENTED BY

HERB J. WESSON, JR. Councilmember, 10th District

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