

RULES, ELECTIONS, AND INTERGOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS COMMITTEE REPORT and RESOLUTION relative to establishing the City's position regarding the Department of Justice's (DOJ) proposal to include a citizenship question on the 2020 Census questionnaire.

Recommendation for Council action, pursuant to Resolution (Wesson - Cedillo), SUBJECT TO THE CONCURRENCE OF THE MAYOR:

ADOPT the accompanying RESOLUTION to include in the City's 2017-18 Federal Legislative Program, OPPOSITION to the DOJ's proposal to include a citizenship question on the 2020 Census questionnaire.

Fiscal Impact Statement: None submitted by the Chief Legislative Analyst (CLA). The City Administrative Officer has not completed a financial analysis of this report.

Community Impact Statement: None submitted.

#### SUMMARY

In a report to the Rules, Elections, and Intergovernmental Relations Committee dated February 6, 2018, the CLA discusses Resolution (Wesson - Cedillo) relative to the DOJ's proposal to include a citizenship question on the 2020 Census questionnaire. According to Resolution, the 2020 Census is the first Census that will be performed primarily electronically, which may create additional barriers for low-income and immigrant communities. Resolution states that this change to an electronic system may also be accompanied by a new citizenship question on the 2020 Census form that could dampen participation rates in immigrant communities because of the Trump administration's emphasis on deportation and border security.

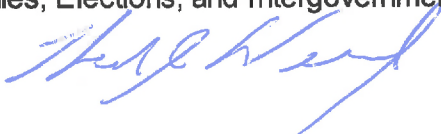
Resolution goes on to state that an accurate count is difficult to obtain and including an additional question increases the time to complete the process of being counted and could deter participation. The City has a long history of supporting immigrant communities through integration policies and programs. Resolution recommends that the City oppose the DOJ's proposal to include a citizenship question on the 2020 Census. The CLA concurs with this recommendation.

The CLA reports that, as of January 26, 2018, the DOJ's proposal is under review by lawyers at the Commerce Department, where attorneys are evaluating the legal basis for the question. The census has not included a question related to citizenship for nearly 70 years. Opposing the citizenship question on the 2020 Census form is consistent with the City's previous actions of protecting immigrant communities from persecution and ensuring an accurate population count.

At its special meeting held February 7, 2018, the Rules, Elections, and Intergovernmental Relations Committee recommended that Council adopt the accompanying Resolution.

Respectfully Submitted,

Rules, Elections, and Intergovernmental Relations Committee



<u>MEMBER</u>	<u>VOTE</u>
WESSON:	YES
HUIZAR:	YES
HARRIS-DAWSON:	YES

jaw

**-NOT OFFICIAL UNTIL COUNCIL ACTS-**