

As Introduced

**133rd General Assembly
Regular Session
2019-2020**

S. R. No. 488

Senator Sykes

**Cosponsors: Senators Antonio, Craig, Fedor, Kunze, Lehner, Maharath, Thomas,
Williams**

A R E S O L U T I O N

To recognize the importance of the 2020 decennial 1
census and to support all efforts by state and 2
local governments to ensure a complete and 3
accurate count of all Ohioans. 4

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF OHIO:

WHEREAS, The United States Census Bureau is required by 5
Congress, pursuant to its authority under Article I, Section 2 6
of the United States Constitution, to conduct an accurate count 7
of the population every ten years; and 8

WHEREAS, The next enumeration is scheduled April 1, 2020, 9
and will be the first to rely heavily on online responses; and 10

WHEREAS, A complete and accurate count of Ohio's population 11
is essential; and 12

WHEREAS, Diverse communities and populations are at risk of 13
being missed in the 2020 decennial census; and 14

WHEREAS, The primary and perpetual challenge facing the 15
United States Census Bureau is an undercount; and 16

WHEREAS, The data collected by the decennial census 17
determines the number of seats each state has in the House of 18

Representatives and is used to distribute billions of dollars in federal funds to state and local governments; and

WHEREAS, Census data also is used in the redistricting of state legislatures and city councils; and

WHEREAS, Ohio's leaders are committed to ensuring every Ohioan is counted once, only once, and in the right place; and

WHEREAS, The United States Census Bureau faces several challenges with the 2020 decennial census, including a constrained fiscal environment, rapidly changing use of technology, declining response rates, and an increasingly diverse and mobile population, and thus support from partners and stakeholders is critical; and

WHEREAS, The General Assembly, in partnership with other local governments, the state, businesses, schools, and community organizations, is committed to robust outreach and communication strategies focusing on reaching the hardest to count individuals; now therefore be it

RESOLVED, That we, the members of the 133rd General Assembly of the State of Ohio, recognize the importance of the 2020 decennial census and support all efforts to ensure a complete and accurate count of all Ohioans; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the Clerk of the Senate transmit duly authenticated copies of this resolution to the sponsor for appropriate distribution.