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Senate Government Oversight Committee
SR 339 Sponsor Testimony
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Chair Roegner, Vice Chair Antani, Ranking Member Hicks-Hudson, and members of the Senate Government Oversight Committee,

I thank you for the opportunity to provide sponsor testimony for Senate Resolution 339, which urges the leaders of the federal government to take legislative or administrative action to prohibit non-u.s. citizens from being counted in the 2030 census and recommends including a citizenship status question on forms used by the census.

It is estimated that over 11 million illegal immigrants currently live in the United States¹, and that number will continue to rise given the crisis at our southern border. All illegal immigrants are eligible to be counted in the census, vastly distorting the proportion of congressional seats each state has. A 2019 study by the Center for Immigration Studies, an independent, non-partisan, non-profit research organization, estimates that counting in this manner impacts the distribution of 26 House seats².

States like Texas and Florida, which have seen the largest influx of illegal immigrants populate their states, have inadvertently gained congressional seats, resulting in our own state and others in the Midwest to lose seats. The continued practice of counting illegal immigrants will tarnish the integrity of the census and produce inaccurate data which is depended upon by our nation's most important institutions.

Urging our leaders at the federal level to take action on this issue and include a citizenship question is a step in the right direction to ensure an accurate census counting. By taking this

¹ "Profile of the Unauthorized Population - US." Migrationpolicy.Org, 1 Apr. 2024, www.migrationpolicy.org/data/unauthorized-immigrant-population/state/US.

² Camarota, Steven A., and Karen Zeigler. "The Impact of Legal and Illegal Immigration on the Apportionment of Seats in the U.S. House of Representatives in 2020." CIS.Org, 19 Dec. 2019, cis.org/Report/Impact-Legal-and-Illegal-Immigration-Apportionment-Seats-US-House-Representatives-2020.

action, our nation could rely on accurate data when congressional district apportionment occurs again in 2030.

Members of the Senate Government Oversight Committee, thank you again for the opportunity to testify on this resolution, I would be happy to answer any questions you may have.