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MICHIGAN HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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MEMORANDUM

DATE: March 11, 2020
TO: Local clerks
FROM: Julie Calley
SUBJECT: Census

As you know, every ten years, the U.S. Constitution requires a headcount of every person living in the United States. Completing the census is critically important because it determines funding through 2030 for local communities and essential services, shapes congressional representation, determines legislative districts, and more.

I was appointed by our Speaker to the Complete Count Committee, a bipartisan group of leaders who recognize the importance of the census. Michigan's census campaign is a collaboration between the State of Michigan, the U.S. Census Bureau, and the Michigan Nonprofit Association.

Please share this memo with your board members. I ask that you consider talking about the census if you have a website or newsletter, as well.

Talking point #1: Michiganders pay a lot of taxes. If we don't achieve a complete count, we will be unnecessarily donating our funds to other states.

In Michigan, over 40% of the state's budget relies on federal funding that is distributed to Michigan communities annually based on census data. These programs include highway planning and construction, public health, education, food and housing assistance, and much more.

Talking point #2: Census data impacts the number of congressional seats that each state holds. We need to make sure we have as many congresspeople in D.C. as possible, to properly represent Michigan's voice and values.

Talking point #3: It's constitutional and confidential. The U.S. Census Bureau will send a notice to all addresses in the U.S. beginning in March 2020. The 2020 Census form includes nine questions regarding the number of people living in your household, their ages, race, ethnicity,

marital status, and housing type. Responding to the census is convenient and can be completed by mail, phone, or online. Doing this promptly will save money, as the state won't have to expend resources to follow up.

Talking point #4: We need our neighbors to help. The U.S. Census Bureau is also looking for thousands of Michiganders to apply for census jobs, both full and part-time positions, including nights and weekends. Since these are temporary positions, they will not count against individuals who currently qualify for public assistance. For more information regarding employment and pay, please visit: <https://2020census.gov/en/jobs>.

In 2010, 78% of the state's population completed the census. Michigan's goal is to achieve an 82% participation rate in 2020. We need your help.

For further details and resources, please visit the website below and do not hesitate to reach out to my office. Thank you in advance for your partnership, as every Michigander counts!

Other informational sources are as follows.

Twitter: @micensus;

Facebook: @MiCensus

Instagram: @micensus

Website: <https://www.michigan.gov/census2020/>