

As Introduced

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

S. R. No. 515

Senator Sykes



A RESOLUTION

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

WHEREAS, The members of the Senate of the 133rd General Assembly of Ohio recognize the importance of the 2020 decennial census and support all efforts by state and local governments to ensure a complete and accurate count of all Ohioans; and

WHEREAS, The United States Census Bureau is required by Congress, pursuant to its authority under Article I, Section 2 of the United States Constitution, to conduct an accurate count of the population every ten years. The next enumeration is scheduled April 1, 2020, and will be the first to rely heavily on online responses. A complete and accurate count of Ohio's population is essential. Diverse communities and populations are at risk of being missed in the 2020 decennial census, and the primary and perpetual challenge facing the United States Census Bureau is an undercount; and

WHEREAS, The data collected by the decennial census determines the number of seats each state has in the House of Representatives and is used to distribute billions of dollars in federal funds to state and local governments. Census data also is used in the redistricting of state legislatures and city councils. 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. 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; therefore be it

RESOLVED, That we, the members of the Senate of the 133rd General Assembly of Ohio, in adopting this Resolution, 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.