

MOTION BY CHAIR HILDA L. SOLIS

September 20, 2016

**PARTICIPATION IN THE CALIFORNIA STATE DATA CENTER NETWORK FOR CENSUS 2020**

Our democracy is based on equitable representation for all people residing in the United States including all ages, races, ethnic groups, citizens, and noncitizens. This assurance is codified in the U.S. Constitution’s establishment of the House of Representatives. In order to determine the number of seats each state has in the House of Representatives, the U.S. Constitution mandated that a headcount, a Census, be conducted every 10 years.

The Census not only determines our representation in Congress, the data collected helps inform decision-makers at all levels of government about changes in their communities. The Census count also affects how legislative district boundaries are redrawn.

Another critical determination based on the Census count is the distribution of over \$400 billion in federal funding to state and local governments each year. County programs that benefit from these federal funds include: Women, Infants and Children (WIC) food grants, health care, job training, public transportation, road rehabilitation and construction, senior services, and emergency food and shelter services.

The next Census in 2020 will require counting an increasingly diverse and growing population of around 330 million people in more than 140 million housing units. To get an accurate count, the Census Bureau must build an accurate address list of every housing unit, maximize self-response to the census, and efficiently follow up with those who do not respond. The decennial census is the largest mobilization and operation conducted in the United States and requires years of research, planning and development of methods and infrastructure to ensure an accurate and complete count.

**MOTION**

Ridley-Thomas \_\_\_\_\_

Kuehl \_\_\_\_\_

Knabe \_\_\_\_\_

Antonovich \_\_\_\_\_

Solis \_\_\_\_\_

One partnership that will be instrumental to Los Angeles County's Census 2020 planning efforts is the California State Data Center (CaSDC). The CaSDC was established in January 1, 1979 within the Demographic Research Unit (DRU) of the California Department of Finance to serve as the central point for the dissemination of census data in California. The CaSDC program was instituted by the U.S. Census Bureau to improve public access to and understanding of census data.

The CaSDC local network is composed of five regional and 35 affiliate centers located throughout the State. Working with the CaSDC, these regional and affiliate centers provide census-related products and services to all 58 California counties. The DRU regularly conducts meetings and workshops for researchers and program planners interested in census and demographic data.

In order to join the network, Los Angeles County must enter into a Statistical Agreement with the CaSDC. This partnership will be mutually beneficial as it will provide the most up-to-date Census data as well as training and workshops for County employees working with Census data and Census 2020. In addition, Los Angeles County will share our geographic data in order to make sure the State's and Census boundary files are up-to-date and therefore achieve the most accurate count possible for Census 2020.

**I, THEREFORE, MOVE THAT THE BOARD:**

1. Delegate authority to the Chief Executive Officer to sign the attached CaSDC Joint Statistical Agreement in order to join the Statewide CaSDC network.
2. Instruct the Chief Executive Office, the Internal Services Department and the Departments of Regional Planning and Public Works to participate in the CaSDC Program for Census 2020.

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