
HOUSE RESOLUTION

SUPPORTING THE UNITED STATES BUREAU OF THE CENSUS AND URGING ALL
HAWAII RESIDENTS TO PARTICIPATE IN 2010.

1 WHEREAS, the United States Constitution requires a national
2 census, which is a count of everyone residing in the nation,
3 once every ten years; and
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5 WHEREAS, the first census in the United States took place
6 in 1790 to determine the number of seats each state would have
7 in the U.S. House of Representatives; and
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9 WHEREAS, the census was also created to gain a better
10 understanding of where people lived and to establish patterns of
11 settlement as the nation grew; and
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13 WHEREAS, census data are used for a number of public
14 purposes including forecasting future transportation needs,
15 providing evidence in litigation involving land use, voting
16 rights, and equal opportunity, determining areas eligible for
17 housing assistance and rehabilitation loans, directing funds for
18 services for people in poverty, and planning for hospitals,
19 nursing homes, clinics, and the location of other health
20 services; and
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22 WHEREAS, the allocation of federal and state funding for
23 critical social services and other public purposes depends on
24 complete and accurate age, population, and demographic
25 information; and
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27 WHEREAS, every year, the federal government can allocate
28 more than \$300 billion to states and communities based, in part,
29 on census data; and
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31 WHEREAS, census data also determines how many seats each
32 state will have in the United States House of Representatives,
33 making a complete and accurate count vital to fair
34 representation; and



1 WHEREAS, the 2010 census will be taken on April 1, 2010,
2 with a ten-question questionnaire delivered or mailed to
3 households in March 2010; and
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5 WHEREAS, federal law requires each resident over 18 years
6 of age to fill out the census questionnaire truthfully or be
7 subject to a \$100 fine; and
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9 WHEREAS, every Census Bureau worker takes a lifetime oath
10 to protect confidentiality to ensure that data identifying
11 respondents and their households are not released or shared for
12 a period of 72 years; and
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14 WHEREAS, this oath means that identity information will not
15 be shared with anyone, including other federal agencies and law
16 enforcement; now, therefore,
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18 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
19 Twenty-fifth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session
20 of 2010, that this body supports the efforts of the United
21 States Bureau of the Census to achieve a complete and accurate
22 census; and
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24 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that all of Hawaii's residents are
25 encouraged to "Be Counted in 2010" by filling out their ten-
26 question questionnaire when it arrives; and
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28 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that local governments, community-
29 based organizations, faith-based organizations, schools, media,
30 businesses, and others are urged to help raise awareness of the
31 vital role of an accurate census, and to encourage full
32 participation; and
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34 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
35 Resolution be transmitted to the Governor, Hawaii's
36 Congressional delegation, Superintendent of Education, Director
37 of Business, Economic Development & Tourism, Mayor of each
38 County, President of the Chamber of Commerce of Hawaii, Editor
39 in Chiefs of the Star Bulletin and Honolulu Advertiser, and the
40 Partnership Specialist at the Honolulu Local Census Office.
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OFFERED BY:

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