

Executive Order No. 2019-22

WHEREAS, Article I, Section 2 of the United States Constitution requires an enumeration of the population every ten years to apportion congressional representation among the states; and

WHEREAS, in accordance with Section 141 of Title 13 of the United States Code, the next federal decennial census will begin on April 1, 2020 (“2020 Census”) and will provide an updated official count of the State of South Carolina’s population; and

WHEREAS, it is essential that the 2020 Census obtain a complete and accurate count of South Carolina’s population, because the resulting figures will be used in apportioning congressional representation, allocating federal formula grant funds, redistricting state and local legislative bodies, and determining other important matters until the next decennial census; and

WHEREAS, following the previous decennial census in 2010, the State of South Carolina gained an additional seat in the United States House of Representatives due to significant population growth, and the 2020 Census is anticipated to confirm further increases in the State’s population; and

WHEREAS, it is vital that the 2020 Census identify and collect accurate data from individuals and communities that are historically difficult to locate or count, including military personnel, young children and the elderly, low-income persons, and rural residents; and

WHEREAS, the United States Census Bureau has recommended that each state form a “Complete Count Committee” to improve awareness and understanding of the importance of the decennial census and to encourage the populace to participate in the 2020 Census; and

WHEREAS, the State of South Carolina is committed to ensuring that the 2020 Census provides a complete and accurate count of its population, which will require expedited planning, education, and outreach efforts in collaboration with local governments and community organizations; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to article IV, section 15 of the South Carolina Constitution, as Governor of the State of South Carolina, the undersigned “shall take care that the laws be faithfully executed.”

NOW, THEREFORE, by virtue of the authority vested in me as Governor of the State of South Carolina and pursuant to the Constitution and Laws of this State and the powers conferred upon me therein, I hereby create and establish the South Carolina 2020 Complete Count Committee (“Committee”), which shall be constituted and shall execute its duties and responsibilities as set forth below:

Section 1. Membership

A. The Committee shall consist of at least twenty-five (25) members appointed by the Governor and may include, but shall not be limited to, certain state and local government officials or their designees, representatives of various community and stakeholder organizations, and such other and further members as may be appointed by the Governor in an effort to represent or reflect the diverse geographic, socioeconomic, gender, racial, occupational, political, and cultural composition of the State of South Carolina.

B. The Lieutenant Governor shall serve as Chair of the Committee. In the absence of the Lieutenant Governor, the Governor shall designate another member of the Committee to serve as Chair.

C. All members of the Committee shall serve at the pleasure of the Governor, who may select and appoint a successor in the event of a vacancy and may otherwise alter the composition of the Committee at any time. Committee shall serve *ex officio*.

Section 2. Objectives

The Committee shall act and serve in an advisory capacity and shall have the following objectives:

- A. Work collaboratively with the United States Census Bureau and any other in-state Complete Count Committees to increase awareness of, and encourage South Carolinians to respond to, the 2020 Census;
- B. Utilize the Committee's knowledge, expertise, and experience to educate individuals and communities regarding the 2020 Census and the importance of participating in the same;
- C. Identify opportunities and resources to promote and increase awareness of the 2020 Census through targeted outreach efforts;
- D. Coordinate cooperative efforts and facilitate partnerships between and among the United States Census Bureau, local governments, any other in-state Complete Count Committees, and community organizations to ensure maximum participation in the 2020 Census and a complete and accurate count of South Carolina's population.

Section 3. Administration

- A. The Committee shall meet at least quarterly and shall convene upon the call of the Chair or the Governor. A simple majority of the members of the Committee shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of all business of the Committee.
- B. The Chair, in consultation with the Governor, may establish and appoint one or more subcommittees or working groups as necessary to assist the Committee in pursuing its objectives with respect to specific issues, communities, or geographic areas.
- C. As the Chair deems necessary and appropriate, the Committee may consult with or enlist additional individuals, officials, or agencies, including the United States Census Bureau, to advise or assist the Committee regarding its objectives and any available information, expertise, or resources related to the same.
- D. The Office of the Governor shall provide staff and administrative support services to the Committee, and all agencies or departments in the Governor's Cabinet shall cooperate with and assist the Committee as needed.

This Order is not intended to create, and does not create, any individual rights, privileges, or benefits, whether substantive or procedural, or enforceable at law or in equity, against the State of South Carolina or its agencies, departments, officers, employees, or any other entities or persons, to include the Committee or any member thereof.

This Order is effective immediately and shall remain in effect until May 31, 2020, unless otherwise superseded or rescinded.

**GIVEN UNDER MY HAND AND THE
GREAT SEAL OF THE STATE OF SOUTH
CAROLINA, THIS 1st DAY OF AUGUST,
2019.**

**HENRY MCMASTER
Governor**