



# State of North Carolina

**ROY COOPER**  
GOVERNOR

October 22, 2018

**EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 79**

## **ESTABLISHING THE NORTH CAROLINA COMPLETE COUNT COMMISSION FOR THE 2020 CENSUS**

**WHEREAS**, Article I, Section 2 of the United States Constitution mandates that a census be conducted of the nation's population every ten (10) years with the next census scheduled for April 1, 2020; and

**WHEREAS**, it is vital that all households in North Carolina complete a census form; and

**WHEREAS**, the census will determine how the federal government distributes \$400 billion in funding, including an estimated \$16 billion for critical community services, housing, economic development, as well as other needs and services in North Carolina; and

**WHEREAS**, the census will also determine how many elected congressional representatives and congressional districts North Carolina will have; and

**WHEREAS**, North Carolina received an additional congressional district following the 2000 Census by a margin of fewer than 1,000 residents and is predicted to gain another congressional district after the 2020 Census; and

**WHEREAS**, it is essential that accurate data be collected from groups of people who are historically difficult to count, including young children, low-income individuals, military personnel, non-native English speakers, minorities, and rural residents; and

**WHEREAS**, planning, outreach, local government involvement, and community education are required to ensure that the census is as accurate as possible; and

**WHEREAS**, the United States Census Bureau has designated the Governor as the administrator of the State of North Carolina's 2020 Census; and

**WHEREAS**, the United States Census Bureau encourages each state to form a Complete Count Commission to increase awareness and understanding about the importance of the 2020 Census and encourage people to participate in the 2020 Census.

**NOW, THEREFORE**, pursuant to the authority vested in me as Governor by the Constitution and the laws of the State of North Carolina, **IT IS ORDERED**:

### **Section 1. Establishment**

The North Carolina Complete Count Commission (hereafter the "Commission") is hereby established.

**Section 2. Membership**

The Commission shall be comprised of at least twenty-five (25) members who shall represent the diverse geographic, economic, racial, cultural, gender, and occupational makeup of the state. Commission members shall serve at the pleasure of the Governor. The Governor shall appoint a Commission Chair, Vice-Chair, and Secretary from within the Commission's membership.

**Section 3. Duties**

The Commission shall have the following duties and functions:

- a. Advise the Governor and the North Carolina General Assembly on census activities in the state;
- b. Identify barriers that might impede the progress of the 2020 Census in North Carolina;
- c. Promote and advertise the 2020 Census;
- d. Respond to residents' questions and concerns about the census;
- e. Develop partnerships with regional and local Complete Count Committees to increase participation;
- f. Distribute and share census information with traditionally hard-to-count areas and populations;
- g. Seek to ensure the highest census participation rate possible.

**Section 4. Meetings**

The Commission shall meet at least quarterly and upon the call of the Commission Chair, the Governor, or the Governor's designee. A simple majority of the Commission members shall constitute a quorum to transact the business of the Commission.

**Section 5. Administration**

- a. The Commission may elect to create sub-commissions.
- b. The Office of the Governor, the North Carolina Department of Administration, and the North Carolina Office of State Budget and Management ("OSBM") shall provide staff and administrative support services for the Commission.
- c. Commission members shall serve without compensation but may receive per diem allowance and reimbursement for travel and subsistence expenses in accordance with state law and OSBM policies and regulations.

**Section 6. Effect and Duration**

This Executive Order is effective immediately and shall remain in effect until December 31, 2020, or until rescinded.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto signed my named and affixed the Great Seal of the State of North Carolina at the Capitol in the City of Raleigh, this the 22<sup>nd</sup> day of October in the year of our Lord two thousand and eighteen.

  
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Roy Cooper  
Governor

ATTEST:

  
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Elaine F. Marshall  
Secretary of State

