



Michigan Nonprofit Association

July 5, 2018

Ms. Jennifer Jessup
Departmental Paperwork Clearance Officer
Department of Commerce
Room 6616
14th and Constitution Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20230

RE: Comments on Proposed Information Collection on 2020 Census, Docket No. USBC-2018-0005

Dear Ms. Jessup,

On behalf of Michigan Nonprofit Association and the 47,000 nonprofits in the state of Michigan, I write to offer comments on the 2020 Census proposed information collection. I urge the Department of Commerce to remove the citizenship question from the 2020 Census form, as it will jeopardize the accuracy of the census in all communities—an outcome that the nation will have to live with for the next 10 years.

The nonprofit sector believes a full, fair, and accurate census, and the collection of useful, objective data about our nation's people, housing, economy, and communities, is vitally important. Nonprofits are keenly aware of the negative impact an undercount will have on their communities, and that they will need to find ways to make up for the shortfalls.

More than 15 billion federal and state program dollars were distributed to Michigan communities based on census data. This is particularly important for Michigan because more than 40% of our state budget relies on federal funding. An inaccurate census count means the hard-to-count populations will rely more heavily on nonprofit organizations for services.

For these reasons, we strongly oppose asking about citizenship status in the 2020 Census and urge the Department of Commerce to remove the proposed citizenship question from the data collection forms.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Donna Murray-Brown'.

Donna Murray-Brown
President & CEO
Michigan Nonprofit Association