

SENATE BILL 455

G1, P1

9lr2178
CF HB 320

By: **Senator Guzzone**

Introduced and read first time: February 4, 2019

Assigned to: Budget and Taxation

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **2020 Census Complete Count Commission**

3 FOR the purpose of establishing the 2020 Census Complete Count Commission; providing
4 that the Commission is an independent Commission functioning within the
5 Department of Planning; providing for the composition, chair, staffing, and purpose
6 of the Commission; prohibiting a member of the Commission from receiving certain
7 compensation, but authorizing the reimbursement of certain expenses; requiring the
8 Commission to determine the State agencies that are able to support the purpose of
9 the Commission, develop and implement a certain plan, develop and implement a
10 certain public awareness campaign, and establish a certain website that includes
11 certain information; authorizing the Commission to coordinate with a certain entity
12 and establish subcommittees; requiring the Commission to submit certain reports to
13 the Governor and the General Assembly on or before certain dates; defining certain
14 terms; providing for the termination of this Act; and generally relating to the 2020
15 Census Complete Count Commission.

16 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,
17 That:

18 (a) (1) In this section the following words have the meanings indicated.

19 (2) “Commission” means the 2020 Census Complete Count Commission.

20 (3) “Hard-to-count populations” means population groups that have a
21 higher risk of being undercounted in the 2020 Census, including:

22 (i) young children;

23 (ii) racial and ethnic minorities;

24 (iii) individuals who do not speak fluent English;

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



- 1 (iv) households with incomes below the poverty line;
- 2 (v) homeless individuals;
- 3 (vi) foreign-born residents;
- 4 (vii) individuals who frequently move residences;
- 5 (viii) individuals who are lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, or who
6 question their sexual orientation; and
- 7 (ix) individuals who distrust government authorities.

8 (4) "2020 Census" means the decennial census conducted by the federal
9 U.S. Census Bureau in the year 2020 to determine the number of people living in the United
10 States for purposes of apportionment of representatives in the House of Representatives.

11 (b) There is a 2020 Census Complete Count Commission.

12 (c) (1) The Commission is an independent commission that functions within
13 the Department of Planning.

14 (2) The purpose of the Commission is to ensure the fair and accurate
15 counting of individuals in hard-to-count populations residing in the State and local
16 jurisdictions in the 2020 Census.

17 (d) The Commission consists of the following members:

18 (1) two members of the Senate of Maryland, appointed by the President of
19 the Senate;

20 (2) two members of the House of Delegates, appointed by the Speaker of
21 the House;

22 (3) the Secretary of Education, or the Secretary's designee;

23 (4) the Secretary of Transportation, or the Secretary's designee;

24 (5) the Secretary of Human Services, or the Secretary's designee;

25 (6) the State Librarian, or the State Librarian's designee;

26 (7) two members appointed by the Governor, one of whom shall serve as
27 liaison to State agencies;

28 (8) one member representing municipal governments, appointed by the

1 Governor after consultation with the Maryland Municipal League;

2 (9) one member representing county governments, appointed by the
3 Governor after consultation with the Maryland Association of Counties;

4 (10) one member of the 2020 Census Grant Program Panel, designated by
5 the Chair of the Panel;

6 (11) the following members, appointed by the Speaker of the House, after
7 consultation with the President of the Senate:

8 (i) one member representing small businesses;

9 (ii) one member representing large businesses;

10 (iii) one member representing minority businesses;

11 (iv) one member representing communities of faith;

12 (v) one member representing senior citizens; and

13 (vi) one member representing the public media;

14 (12) four members representing communities with hard-to-count
15 populations, appointed by the Speaker of the House; and

16 (13) four members representing communities with hard-to-count
17 populations, appointed by the President of the Senate.

18 (e) The President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House jointly shall
19 designate the chair of the Commission.

20 (f) The Department of Planning shall provide staff for the Commission.

21 (g) A member of the Commission:

22 (1) may not receive compensation as a member of the Commission; but

23 (2) is entitled to reimbursement for expenses under the Standard State
24 Travel Regulations, as provided in the State budget.

25 (h) The Commission shall:

26 (1) determine the State agencies that are able to support the purpose of the
27 Commission;

28 (2) in coordination with the relevant State agencies determined under item

1 (1) of this subsection, develop and implement a plan to ensure the fair and accurate
2 counting of individuals in hard-to-count populations for the 2020 Census;

3 (3) develop and implement a public awareness campaign that promotes
4 public awareness of and participation in the 2020 Census; and

5 (4) establish a public website to share information about the 2020 Census,
6 the Commission, hard-to-count populations, and any other information the Commission
7 determines appropriate to serve the purpose of the Commission.

8 (i) The Commission may:

9 (1) coordinate with the 2020 Census Grant Program Panel; and

10 (2) establish subcommittees.

11 (j) (1) On or before November 30, 2019, the Commission shall submit an
12 interim report to the Governor and, in accordance with § 2-1246 of the State Government
13 Article, the General Assembly.

14 (2) On or before June 30, 2020, the Commission shall submit a final report
15 on its work to ensure the fair and accurate counting of individuals in hard-to-count
16 populations in the 2020 Census to the Governor and, in accordance with § 2-1246 of the
17 State Government Article, the General Assembly.

18 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July
19 1, 2019. It shall remain effective for a period of 1 year and 6 months and, at the end of
20 December 31, 2020, this Act, with no further action required by the General Assembly, shall
21 be abrogated and of no further force and effect.