

**Reaffirmation: National Federation of Democratic Women
Resolution on 2020 Decennial Census for an Accurate Count**

WHEREAS, the United States Constitution mandates an accurate count of all people living in the United States ever since the first census was conducted in 1790. On July 1, 1902, the U.S. Census Bureau was established in the Department of the Interior, and since 1913, the Census Office functions within the Department of Commerce; and

WHEREAS, a decennial census is mandated for those years that end in a zero so that an official geographic population count can be used to allocate representation in the U.S. House of Representatives as well to determine the distribution of billions of federal dollars; and

WHEREAS, concern has been expressed for some time that an accurate count must be taken in 2020: "There's no hyperbole in saying that participation in the *decennial* census is one of our most important civic duties." (Eric H. Holder Jr., "How the Trump administration's scheme to rig the census threatens American democracy," *New Republic*, 20 Feb. 2018); and

WHEREAS, the U.S. Commerce Department in March 2018 announced that a citizenship question will be added to the 2020 decennial census, yet this question has not been asked as part of a census since 1950; and

WHEREAS, the National Federation of Democratic Women (NFDW) agrees with numerous stakeholders that adding a citizenship question will jeopardize the integrity of the 2020 decennial census by causing confusion and fear among non-citizens, resulting in persons not being counted. The 14th Amendment of our Constitution mandates that all should be counted regardless of race, citizenship or legal status.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT NFDW is calling upon all members of Congress and all state governors and respective House of Representatives and Senate members to act to assure that a citizenship question is not added to the 2020 decennial census.

Adopted by the NFDW June 2018

Reaffirmed by the NFDW Membership at the 48th Annual Convention on June 15, 2019