



State & Commerce Committee - Board of Representatives

Lindsey Miller, Chair

Robert Roqueta, Vice Chair

Committee Report

Date: Thursday, December 19, 2019

Time: 7:00 p.m.

Place: Republican Caucus Room, 4th Floor, Government Center, 888 Washington Boulevard, Stamford, CT

The State & Commerce Committee met as indicated above. In attendance were Chair Miller and Committee Member Reps. Adams, Graziosi, and Roqueta. Absent or excused was Rep. McGarry. Also present were Reps. Di Costanzo and Michelson; Polly O'Brien Morrow, Complete Count Committee; Edith Targonski, Census Coordinator; and Yvette Trujillo Rose, US Census Bureau.

Chair Miller called the meeting to order at 7:07 p.m.

Item No.	Description	Committee Action
1. SC30.024	RESOLUTION; Supporting the efforts of Stamford's Complete Count Committee & the US Census Bureau to ensure all residents of Stamford are counted in the upcoming 2020 Census. 12/02/19 – Submitted by Reps. Michelson, Quinones, Lee, Figueroa, de la Cruz, Stella, Cottrell, Fedeli, Lion, Miller, Adams, Graziosi and Roqueta	Approved 4-0-0

The committee discussed the upcoming census with the invited guests:

Ms. Rose explained that:

- The message is that the census is safe, easy and important
- Personal information collected can only be used for statistical purposes
- The census data has great impact on voting, funding of social programs
- People will be able to respond online, in paper, by phone or in person
- Packets will start appearing in mailboxes the week of March 12th, if people haven't responded by the end of April, census takers will visit for an in person response
- They are currently hiring census takers
- People can respond in 12 different non-English languages
- This requires local support
- Stamford has some communities that are difficult to count
- Ms. Morrow and Ms. Targonski described the work of the Complete Count committee and raising awareness of the census in the City

- Ms. Morrow and Ms. Targonski - explained that the website www.Stamfordcounts.com has information pertaining to the local efforts.
- Criminal background checks are done on all census workers
- Census records do not become public for 72 years
- They have a predictor of tracts where residents may not respond on their own
- The Complete Count Committee can be invited to any public events in order to enhance reach out to the community
- There will be specially trained teams to count the homeless

A motion to approve the resolution was made, seconded and approved by a vote of 4-0-0 (Reps. Miller, Adams, Graziosi, and Roqueta in favor).

Chair Miller adjourned the meeting at 7:50 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Lindsey Miller, Chair

This meeting is on [video](#).