San Francisco Office of Civic Engagement & Immigrant Affairs and San Francisco Immigrant Rights Commission: 2020 Census Citizenship Question Will Not Ensure an Accurate, Complete or Fair Count of America’s People

The addition of a citizenship question on the U.S. 2020 Census Survey is a blatant attempt to insert politics into what should be a fair and accurate count of America’s people.

The U.S. Department of Commerce’s announcement that the decennial Census survey will ask respondents about their citizenship status is a clear reflection of the current administration’s anti-immigrant and exclusionary policies.

The U.S. Constitution requires a complete count of every person living in the country, regardless of citizenship status. Data collected by the Census have far-reaching implications, and are used to determine everything from congressional representation to federal dollars to each state for transportation, health, safety, emergency services and vital programs.

No one should fear participating in the 2020 Census.

Our immigrant communities matter and count. Immigrants contribute greatly to America’s vitality, strength and economy.

The Office of Civic Engagement & Immigrant Affairs and the Immigrant Rights Commission pledge to work with communities and cities across the nation to make sure the 2020 Census provides an accurate, complete, fair and inclusive count of ALL America’s people, regardless of immigration status.

We must continue to stand strong for what is right.