

# TOWN OF BURRILLVILLE

## Office of Town Clerk

Louise R. Phaneuf  
Town Clerk



TOWN BUILDING  
HARRISVILLE, R.I.

Telephone: (401) 568-4300 ext. 124

FAX: (401) 568-0490

E-mail: [townclerk@burrillville.org](mailto:townclerk@burrillville.org)

RI Relay 1-800-745-5555 (TTY)

## ***Burrillville Town Council Resolution***

### ***Encouraging all Rhode Islander to Participate in Census 2020 and be Counted***

- Whereas, Article I, Section 2 of the United States Constitution requires every man, woman and child in America be counted every ten years for purposes of allocating seats in Congress; and
- Whereas, April 1, 2019 marks one year until the next decennial census of the population must be conducted; and
- Whereas, in December 2018, the United State Census Bureau ranked Rhode Island's second congressional seat number 388, with only the top 385 districts to be seated; and
- Whereas, an undercount of the population in 2020 will likely result in the loss of fair representation for Rhode Island in the United States House of Representatives; and
- Whereas, the Census will not only be the basis for drawing congressional, state and local voting districts, but also the allocation of \$700 billion in federal funds for the next decade; and
- Whereas, one third of Rhode Island's state budget, approximately \$3 billion, is comprised of these federal dollars, including funding for police and fire departments, small business owners, housing, healthcare, education, Medicaid, clean water, waste disposal and other services; and
- Whereas, the federal government allocated \$157 million to Rhode Island's elementary and secondary schools in 2017; and
- Whereas, local jurisdictions across Rhode Island use Census data to determine social and economic characteristics of its populations, funding needs for infrastructure projects, economic development programs, job trainings and other activities; and
- Whereas, obtaining a fair and accurate count from both rural and urban communities across Rhode Island has historically proven to be difficult in the 61 Census tracts known to be Hard-to-Count, spanning from north to south and east to west, encompassing such communities as Woonsocket, West Warwick, South Kingstown and Newport; and
- Whereas, for the first time in United States history the Census Bureau will be launching its survey response through electronic means, creating a risk to communities with limited internet access; and

Whereas, it will take the united action of all Rhode Island towns and cities to ensure a complete and accurate count and, furthermore, it will be vitally important for local governments to support census outreach and education efforts to ensure that every Rhode Island is counted in the 2020 Census; and

Whereas, The Rhode Island Complete Count Committee, ordered by the Governor, shall develop, recommend and assist in the administration of a census outreach strategy to encourage full participation in the 2020 federal decennial census of population.


NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that we, the Town Council of the Town of Burrillville, recognizes the critical importance of Census 2020 for the future of Rhode Island and encourages all residents to participate in the 2020 Census and to become involved in peer education and outreach.

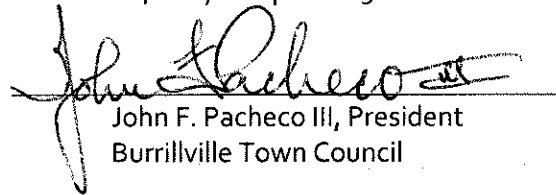
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that we support the effort of the Rhode Island Complete Count Committee to raise at least \$1.2 million to build a community outreach campaign to ensure that all of Rhode Island is counted in 2020.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of the resolution be sent to the Co-Chairs of Rhode Island Complete Count Committee, the Governor, the Speaker of the House and the President of the Senate.

PASSED AS A RESOLUTION of the Burrillville Town Council this 24<sup>th</sup> day of April 2019

ATTEST:

  
Louise R. Phaneuf, Town Clerk

  
John F. Pacheco III, President  
Burrillville Town Council

