

STATE OF MISSISSIPPI

*Office of the Governor*



**EXECUTIVE ORDER 1449**

**ESTABLISHING THE MISSISSIPPI COMPLETE COUNT COMMITTEE  
FOR THE 2020 CENSUS**

**WHEREAS**, Article I, Section 2 of the United States Constitution mandates that a census be conducted of the nation's population every ten (10) years with the next census scheduled for April 1, 2020; and

**WHEREAS**, it is vital that all households in Mississippi complete a census form; and

**WHEREAS**, the census will determine how the federal government distributes \$675 billion in funding, including billions of dollars for critical community services, housing, and economic development, as well as other needs and services in Mississippi; and

**WHEREAS**, the census will also determine how many elected congressional representatives and congressional districts Mississippi will have; and

**WHEREAS**, it is essential that accurate data be collected from all Mississippians, including groups of people who have typically been underrepresented, including young children, low-income individuals, military personnel, non-native English speakers, minorities, residents in newly-constructed developments, and rural residents; and

**WHEREAS**, planning, outreach, local government involvement, and community education are required to ensure that the census is as accurate as possible; and

**WHEREAS**, the United States Census Bureau has designated the Governor as the administrator of the State of Mississippi's 2020 Census; and

**WHEREAS**, the United States Census Bureau encourages each state to form a Complete Count Committee to increase awareness and understanding about the importance of the 2020 Census and encourage people to participate in the 2020 Census.

**NOW, THEREFORE**, pursuant to the authority vested in me as Governor by the Constitution and the laws of the State of Mississippi, **IT IS ORDERED**:

**Section 1. Establishment**

The Mississippi Complete Count Committee (hereafter the "Committee") is hereby established.

**Section 2. Membership**

The Committee shall be comprised of at least twenty-five (25) members who shall represent the diverse geographic, economic, racial, cultural, gender, and occupational makeup of the state. Committee members shall serve at the pleasure of the Governor. The Governor shall appoint a Committee Chairman, Vice-Chairman, and Secretary from within the Committee's membership. The Chairman shall serve as the Executive Director to supervise the administrative functions of the Committee and receive such compensation as determined by the Governor.

**Section 3. Duties**

The Committee shall have the following duties and functions:

- a. Advise the Governor and the Mississippi Legislature on census activities in the state;
- b. Identify barriers that might impede the progress of the 2020 Census in Mississippi;
- c. Promote and advertise the 2020 Census;
- d. Respond to residents' questions and concerns about the census;
- e. Develop partnerships with regional and local Complete Count Committees to increase participation;
- f. Distribute and share census information with traditionally hard-to-count areas and populations; and
- g. Seek to ensure the highest census participation rate possible.

**Section 4. Meetings**

The Committee shall meet at least quarterly and upon the call of the Committee Chair, the Governor, or the Governor's designee. A simple majority of the Committee members shall constitute a quorum to transact the business of the Committee.

**Section 5. Administration**

- a. The Committee may elect to create sub-committees.
- b. The Office of the Governor, the Mississippi Secretary of State, the Mississippi Department of Finance and Administration ("DFA"), the Mississippi Institutions of Higher Learning ("IHL"), and any other agency which may be directed by the Governor shall provide staff and administrative support services for the Committee.
- c. Committee members shall serve without compensation but may receive per diem allowance and reimbursement for travel and subsistence expenses in accordance with state law and DFA policies and regulations.

**Section 6. Effect and Duration**

This Executive Order is effective immediately and shall remain in effect until December 31, 2020, or until rescinded.



**IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF**, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Mississippi to be affixed.

**DONE** at the Capitol in the City of Jackson, the 7<sup>th</sup> day of August, in the year of our Lord two thousand nineteen, and of the Independence of the United States of America, the two hundred and forty-fourth.

Handwritten signature of Phil Bryant in black ink.

**PHIL BRYANT  
GOVERNOR**

**BY THE GOVERNOR**

Handwritten signature of C. Delbert Hosemann, Jr. in blue ink.

**C. DELBERT HOSEMANN, JR.  
SECRETARY OF STATE**