# 000000 YOUR PARTICIPATION MATTERS

# 2020 U.S. Census

- Participating in the Census is essential!

- Census data helps to establish the number of seats in Congress for California.

-The Census also helps to determine the amount of federal money your community will receive to improve local schools, hospitals, public roads, and to create programs for low-income families.

## Frequently Asked Questions

#### Who organizes the Census?

- The U.S. Census Bureau organizes the Census every 10 years.

#### Is participating in the Census mandatory?

- The Constitution states that every person living in the country must be counted every 10 years. The Census must be completed by all households; this includes U.S. citizens and non-citizens.

#### Who must be counted in the Census?

- Everyone living in the household must be counted, including young children.

- It's important to count everyone—including children because this informs school districts of resources that are needed.

#### Is participating in the Census safe?

- The responses are confidential and are only used to gather data. They are protected by federal law and no one may share the information. If Census workers break the law, they will be penalized with a fine of \$250,000 and/or up to 5 years in prison.

- The U.S. Census Bureau will never ask for your social security number or for donations. They will never ask for your bank account or credit card information.

- Census workers will only contact you via mail, phone, or in person. They will never contact you via email.

#### How will the Census be completed?

- You will be able to complete the Census starting April 1, 2020 online, by mail, or by phone.

- If you do not respond online, a Census worker will call your home. If no one responds a worker will visit your home to help you complete the Census in person.

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- Information regarding immigration status will not be included on the Census.
- You do not need to state your name.
- The data will not be shared with ICE, the police, or the FBI.

- If someone visits you at home and says they are from the U.S. Census Bureau, ask to see their identification and official badge!



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