

**METROPOLITAN WASHINGTON COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS
777 NORTH CAPITOL STREET, NE
WASHINGTON, DC 20002**

RESOLUTION SUPPORTING 2020 CENSUS TAKE A BREAK, TAKE THE CENSUS

WHEREAS, the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments (COG) is comprised of the 24 jurisdictions of the National Capital Region's local governments and their governing officials, plus area members of the Maryland and Virginia legislatures and the U.S. Senate and House of Representatives, and COG provides a focus for action on issues of regional concern; and

WHEREAS, the U.S. Constitution – Article I, Section 2, clause 3, as modified by Section 2 of the 14th Amendment – requires a population census every 10 years for apportioning seats in the House of Representatives and to distribute an estimated \$675 billion annually in federal funds to states and localities; and

WHEREAS, state and local governments use census data to determine the best allocation of scarce fiscal and human resources in criminal justice, transportation, education, public health, and disaster management; to calculate annual limits in the growth of state government revenue and spending; and to redraw legislative districts; and

WHEREAS, achieving a fair and accurate count in the 2020 Census is essential to the COG local governments and the region; and

WHEREAS, COG has been working together with the member local governments to promote the importance of participating in the 2020 Census survey beginning in March 2020; and

WHEREAS, COG supports the regional campaign *Take a Break, Take the Census*, encouraging governments, non-profits, and the business community to provide a designated time for employees to take the Census while at work.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE METROPOLITAN WASHINGTON COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS THAT:

The board supports the regional 2020 Census initiative, *Take a Break, Take the Census*, and encourages governments, non-profits, and the business community to provide a designated time for employees to take the Census survey while at work between March 12 and April 1, 2020.

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT the foregoing resolution was adopted by the COG Board of Directors on February 12, 2020.

Laura Ambrosio, COG Communications Specialist