

PLANNING AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

10-0140R

RESOLUTION ANNOUNCING THE CITY OF DULUTH'S SUPPORT AND RECOGNITION OF THE IMPORTANCE OF THE 2010 DECENNIAL CENSUS AND TO ENCOURAGE ALL DULUTH RESIDENTS TO PARTICIPATE IN THE 2010 DECENNIAL CENSUS.

CITY PROPOSAL:

WHEREAS, April 1, 2010, is Census Day in the United States; and

WHEREAS, every ten years, the United States conducts a census - as required by the Constitution (Article I, Section 2) with the goal of the census being to count everyone residing in the United States: in all 50 states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico and U.S. territories. All residents of the United States must be counted, including people of all ages, races, ethnic groups, citizens and non-citizens. The first census was conducted in 1790 and has been carried out every decade since; and

WHEREAS, the city of Duluth recognizes the equal importance of each resident in the 2010 census count; and

WHEREAS, the census is easy, important and safe. Every census bureau worker takes a lifetime oath to protect confidentiality and ensure that data identifying respondents or their households not be released or shared for a period of 72 years; and

WHEREAS, the city of Duluth understands the tremendous impact of census data on elected offices - both state and federal levels - as districts are redrawn each decade and congressional seats apportioned based on population; and

WHEREAS, each year the federal government allocates more than \$400 billion to state and local governments which is based, in part, on census data. Census data is used to determine the need for additional social services, block grants and other grant programs essential to many communities. Census data affects a diverse range of initiatives, from justifying the need for an after-school program to the designation of urban revitalization areas; and

WHEREAS, an accurate count of Duluth's and the state of Minnesota's residents is critical to ensure Duluth and Minnesota gain the maximum advantage

when competing for federal dollars, making plans for future initiatives and projects and reapportioning state and federal elected seats.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the city of Duluth supports the 2010 Decennial Census and encourages the participation of all Duluth residents in order to increase participation among all populations and to achieve an accurate and complete census count in Duluth.

Approved:

Approved for presentation to council:

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Department Director

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Chief Administrative Officer

Approved as to form:

Approved:

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Attorney

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Auditor

CD KAH:KS:jle 3/11/2010

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to recognize the importance and to raise the level of awareness of Duluth's residents regarding participation in the 2010 census.