## CITY OF MALDEN, MASSACHUSETTS Office of the City Council 215 Pleasant Street, Suite 430 Malden, MA 02148

Jadeane Sica
Council President

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City Council Office
Tel: 781.397.7000 x2130
Icagno@cityofmalden.org

August 14, 2020

Honorable Edward Markey 255 Dirksen Senate Office Building Washington, DC 20510

RE: City of Malden – Resolve of Malden City Council regarding 2020 US Census

**Dear Senator Markey:** 

I write to you on behalf of the members of the Malden City Council, who represent the citizens of the City of Malden. We thank you for your ongoing service and commitment to our community.

We ask you to demand the US Census Bureau reverse its August 3, 2020 decision to end field data collection by September 30, 2020, one month earlier than planned.

We ask you to demand the US Census Bureau extend the field data collection period until November 30, 2020, ensuring additional time for all households to have the opportunity to complete the 2020 Census form.

The City Council recently approved the attached Resolve, by unanimous vote of those members present, regarding the August 3, 2020 decision of the US Census Bureau to end field data collection early. City of Malden Mayor Gary Christenson offered his full support and his letter of support is included.

The City Council approved this Resolve because it is our belief that every effort must be made to reach out to the staggering number of households in the United States - nearly forty percent (40%) - which have not yet responded to the US Census Bureau's request to electronically complete the 2020 Census form, to allow for accurate participation in the Census process.

This shift in the date undoubtedly affects the time for households to respond, excludes residents from being counted, thus leading to inaccurate data and counts, ultimately resulting in inequity in representation and resources. This data collection deadline should be extended, not shortened. This is underscored by the fact that the COVID19 pandemic has prevented door-to-door Census taking by which many individuals have become accustomed to providing responses to requests for information in previous Census years. Shortening the deadline leaves many out of the data collection process.

Page 2 – continued Resolve of Malden City Council August 14, 2020

For our part, we will continue our efforts to publicize the need for residents to respond to the US Census Bureau's request to complete the 2020 Census form, and we ask that you join in those efforts too, and publicize the importance of completing the Census form and taking any other action in your power in regard to these requests and advancing this Resolve.

Please connect with me if you have any questions regarding this Resolve or the purpose for which we are reaching out to you.

Again, we thank you for your work on behalf of the City of Malden.

Very truly yours,

Jadeane Sica, President Malden City Council

## Office of the City Council 215 Pleasant Street, Suite 430 Malden, MA 02148

Jadeane Sica Council President COWN 1649

City Council Office
Tel: 781.397.7000 x2130
<a href="mailto:lcagno@cityofmalden.org">lcagno@cityofmalden.org</a>

August 14, 2020

Honorable Elizabeth Warren 309 Hart Senate Office Building Washington, DC 20510

RE: City of Malden – Resolve of Malden City Council regarding 2020 US Census

Dear Senator Warren:

I write to you on behalf of the members of the Malden City Council, who represent the citizens of the City of Malden. We thank you for your ongoing service and commitment to our community.

We ask you to demand the US Census Bureau reverse its August 3, 2020 decision to end field data collection by September 30, 2020, one month earlier than planned.

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Page 2 – continued Resolve of Malden City Council August 14, 2020

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Please connect with me if you have any questions regarding this Resolve or the purpose for which we are reaching out to you.

Again, we thank you for your work on behalf of the City of Malden.

Very truly yours,

Jadeane Sica, President Malden City Council

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Jadeane Sica
Council President

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City Council Office Tel: 781.397.7000 x2130 lcagno@cityofmalden.org

August 14, 2020

Honorable Katherine Clark 2448 Rayburn House Office Building Washington, DC 20515

RE: City of Malden – Resolve of Malden City Council regarding 2020 US Census

Dear Congresswoman Clark:

I write to you on behalf of the members of the Malden City Council, who represent the citizens of the City of Malden. We thank you for your ongoing service and commitment to our community.

We ask you to demand the US Census Bureau reverse its August 3, 2020 decision to end field data collection by September 30, 2020, one month earlier than planned.

We ask you to demand the US Census Bureau extend the field data collection period until November 30, 2020, ensuring additional time for all households to have the opportunity to complete the 2020 Census form.

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The City Council approved this Resolve because it is our belief that every effort must be made to reach out to the staggering number of households in the United States - nearly forty percent (40%) - which have not yet responded to the US Census Bureau's request to electronically complete the 2020 Census form, to allow for accurate participation in the Census process.

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Page 2 – continued Resolve of Malden City Council August 14, 2020

For our part, we will continue our efforts to publicize the need for residents to respond to the US Census Bureau's request to complete the 2020 Census form, and we ask that you join in those efforts too, and publicize the importance of completing the Census form and taking any other action in your power in regard to these requests and advancing this Resolve.

Please connect with me if you have any questions regarding this Resolve or the purpose for which we are reaching out to you.

Again, we thank you for your work on behalf of the City of Malden.

Very truly yours,

Jadeane Sica, President Malden City Council



Malden, MA

Date: August 14, 2020

Paper # 231 of 2020

Below is a true attest copy of same:

Resolve of the Malden City Council Regarding U.S. Census Bureau's to End Field Data Collection

Resolved: That it is the sense of the City Council that every effort needs to be made to reach out to the 40% of residents who have not responded to the U.S. Census Bureau's request to electronically complete the 2020 Census form, including the following actions:

- (1) Malden's Federal Delegation should demand that the U.S. Census Bureau reverse its August 3, 2020 decision to end field data collection a month earlier than planned and instead extend field data collection period until November 30, 2020; and
- (2) The City should continue its grant-funded effort to publicize the need for residents to respond to the U.S. Census Bureau's request to complete the 2020 Census form.

Paper # 231 of 2020, of which the above is a true copy
Adopted, August 11, 2020 by the City Council, by yea (10) and nay (0) vote, the City
Council consisting of eleven members at their August 11, 2020 meeting.

Attest:

City Clerk



## <u>www.cityofmalden.org</u> Gary Christenson, Mayor

August 11, 2020

The Honorable City Council Malden City Hall 215 Pleasant Street Malden, MA 02148

Dear Members of the Council:

I write to voice my full support of City Councillor Stephen Winslow's Resolve entitled Resolve of the Malden City Council Regarding U.S. Census Bureau's Decision to End Field Data Collection.

I believe that the Trump Administration's August 3<sup>rd</sup> decision to move the Census completion deadline from October to September was wrong. The COVID19 pandemic has tremendously limited the ability to reach residents. As all field operations have been shut down, it has been a real challenge to reach our hard to count individuals.

I would strongly urge our federal legislators to do all they can to reverse this decision and extend the deadline to the end of December 2020. The September deadline will no doubt result in fewer of our residents being counted, thus providing less resources for our city.

Sincerely,

GARY CHRISTENSON Mayor, City of Malden