

January 20, 2021

The Honorable Ron Klain
White House Chief of Staff
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Mr. Klain:

We write as stakeholders in the 2021 state and local redistricting process. The undersigned will play different roles, but we all expect to participate in redistricting in various states this year. We write to urge President-elect Biden to rescind Executive Order 13380 (July 11, 2019) as soon as possible after he assumes office on January 20. We also urge the Biden Administration concomitantly to direct the Census Bureau to immediately cease all activities to create the block-level database of United States citizenship mandated by that Executive Order.

Although we all expect a substantial delay in the Bureau's release of the P.L. 94-171 redistricting data because of the difficulties created by the pandemic and the outgoing administration's attempts to manipulate the 2020 Census count, we nonetheless believe that it is imperative to act swiftly to prevent further work on the creation of a block-level citizenship database. We are all concerned that the continued creation of such a database and the potential release, whether by legal compulsion or otherwise, of such a database, no matter how partial or flawed, could cause serious havoc in the 2021 redistricting process in a number of states throughout the country.

If you have any questions about this matter, please feel free to contact Thomas A. Saenz, President and General Counsel, MALDEF (tsaenz@maldef.org), Terry Ao Minnis, Senior Director of Census and Voting Programs, Asian Americans Advancing Justice – AAJC (tminnis@advancingjustice-aaajc.org), or any of the undersigned. Thank you for your attention.

Sincerely,

Organizations

Advancement Project National Office
Advocates for Children of New Jersey
American-Arab Anti-Discrimination Committee (ADC)
Andrew A Beveridge, President, Social Explorer, Inc.
Arab American Institute (AAI)
Arkansas United
Asian American Legal Defense and Education Fund (AALDEF)
Asian Americans Advancing Justice – AAJC
Asian Americans Advancing Justice - Atlanta
Asian Americans Advancing Justice - Los Angeles
Asian and Pacific Islander American Vote

Austin Asian Community Civic Coalition
California Black Census and Redistricting Hub
California Foundation for Independent Living Centers
California Statewide Database
Campaign Legal Center
Center for Civic Policy
Common Cause
Disability Rights California
Disability Rights Education & Defense Fund (DREDF)
Empowering Pacific Islander Communities (EPIC)
Equality California
Everyday Impact Consulting
Fair Count
Faith in Action
Georgetown Center on Poverty and Inequality's (GCPI) Economic Security & Opportunity Initiative
Georgia Association of Latino Elected Officials (GALEO)
Katalin Robles, Division of Equity and Social Justice
LatinoJustice PRLDEF
League of Women Voters of the United States
MALDEF
NAACP Legal Defense and Educational Fund, Inc (LDF)
NALEO Educational Fund
National Redistricting Foundation
Nebraska Appleseed Center For Law In the Public Interest
New Jersey Institute for Social Justice
New York Immigration Coalition
New York Immigration Coalition
Prison Policy Initiative
Service Employees International Union (SEIU)
Silver State Equality-Nevada
South Asian Network
Southern Coalition for Social Justice
Union for Reform Judaism

Individuals

Alicia Fernandez, Commissioner - 2020 California Citizens Redistricting Commission
Arcel Vazquez Blume
Carla Collins
Carolyn Le
Commissioner Sara Sadhwani, California Citizens Redistricting Commission
Ditas Katague, Chair Emeritus, National Advisory Committee on Racial, Ethnic and Other Populations, to
the US Census Bureau
Forest Peterson, The County of Santa Clara
Isra Ahmad

Jeffrey M. Wice, New York Law School
Josh Cohen, New Heights Communications
Karla Mondragon
Margo Anderson
Patricia S. Sinay
Russell Yee, California Citizens Redistricting Commissioner
Teresa Castellanos, Trustee San Jose Unified School District
Zelica Rodriguez-Deams