



# STATE OF MINNESOTA

## Office of Governor Tim Walz

130 State Capitol ♦ 75 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd ♦ Saint Paul, MN 55155-1611

October 1, 2019

Dear Friend:

We are six months out from Census Day, April 1, 2020. The Walz-Flanagan administration is committed to achieving an accurate, fully inclusive, and nonpartisan 2020 Census count in Minnesota.

Ensuring a full count of all Minnesotans is critical to our state. The decennial Census is so fundamental to our country that it is mandated by the U.S. Constitution. It ensures fair representation in Congress. It means federal dollars for schools, parks, and roads, and it provides the data that neighborhood groups to business owners to policymakers need to make decisions and investments to create jobs and improve our communities.

Minnesotans have a lot at stake in the 2020 Census. Our state receives more than \$15 billion in federal dollars each year – funding that is determined by our census count. On a per capita basis, that is \$2,796 per person each year or almost \$28,000 per person a decade. Minnesota is again at risk of losing representation in the U.S. House of Representatives.

The Lt Governor and I are proud to do our part to ensure a full count of all Minnesotans. It is important to achieving our vision of One Minnesota. In the last legislative session, our administration worked with the legislature to invest \$1.6 million to help prepare Minnesota for the 2020 Census. These dollars will support state efforts to promote Census participation as well as community efforts to reach historically undercounted communities. Private dollars will also be used to bolster community outreach activities across the state.

The Census is something we do together as Minnesotans, and everyone has a role to play. I encourage everyone with a stake in the future of Minnesota to find a way to get involved. From nonprofits and foundations to corporations, co-workers and neighbors to individuals – I invite you to do your part. Minnesota is better when we all count.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "T. J. Walz".

Governor Tim Walz