



City of Harrisonburg, Virginia

Office of the Mayor

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Deanna R. Reed
Mayor

Proclamation recognizing April as Census Awareness Month

WHEREAS, Article 1, Section 2, of the United States Constitution mandates a decennial census stating “Representatives and direct Taxes shall be apportioned among the Several States...according to their respective Numbers...”; and

WHEREAS, the 2020 Census will address every household in the nation with a simple questionnaire with the goal of counting everyone once, only once, and in the right place; and

WHEREAS, the data collected from this survey is used to determine a variety of things, including but not limited to: the distribution of Congressional seats in the United States House of Representatives, how to redistrict states, and how to allocate federal funds to states, which directly impacts communities; and

WHEREAS, additionally, residents, businesses, local governments, real estate developers, and city planners use the data collected in a variety of ways to support community initiatives, build factories and offices, plan new schools and hospitals, and develop new homes and revitalize old neighborhoods; and

WHEREAS, data obtained by the survey will be used to help determine how approximately \$675 billion will be distributed from the federal government to state, local, and tribal governments annually; and

WHEREAS, up to \$2,000 of federal funding will be lost for each person not counted; as well as upwards of \$20,000 of federal funding lost every ten years; and

WHEREAS, on December 18, 2018, Governor Northam issued Executive Order Twenty-Seven, establishing the Virginia Complete Count Commission for the 2020 Census, which was created to improve the participation and representation of all Virginians in the 2020 Census; and

WHEREAS, it is important that everyone in Virginia counts, every community matters, and that every person who lives in Virginia has equitable access to opportunities, resources, and representation;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Deanna R. Reed, Mayor of the City of Harrisonburg, do hereby recognize April 2019, as **CENSUS AWARENESS MONTH** in our **COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA**, and I call this observance to the attention of all our citizens.

GIVEN under my hand this 9th day of April, 2019.

BY: _____
Deanna R. Reed, Mayor

ATTEST: _____
Pamela Ulmer, City Clerk