

Legislation Text

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Res. No. 1204

Resolution calling upon the United States House of Representatives' Subcommittee on Immigration and Claims to examine the issue of placing a temporary nationwide moratorium on any and all Immigration and Naturalization raids targeting undocumented immigrants while Census 2000 enumeration is underway.

By Council Members Clarke, Henry, Carrion, Malave-Dilan, Espada, Freed, Linares, Lopez and Quinn; also Council Members Foster, Michels, Perkins and Watkins

Whereas, The Census, administered once every ten years by the United States Census Bureau, records the statistical and demographic makeup of individual households and businesses of citizens and resident non-citizens; and

Whereas, An accurate census helps to determine important resource allocations and other vital needs for communities; and

Whereas, The United States Census Bureau has made a great effort to address the undercounting of people of color and minorities in the Census 2000; and

Whereas, Undocumented residents in the United States are fearful that participating in a census may result in being reported to the Immigration and Naturalization Service; and

Whereas, Such fear may harm the efforts achieved in reducing the numbers of people who are not counted during the census process; and

Whereas, The United States Census Bureau has recognized in Title 13 of the United States Code the private and sensitive nature of the information that it solicits in order to conduct the Census; and

Whereas, A moratorium on raids by the Immigration and Naturalization Service would convey sensitivity to the experience of immigrant families and would send a strong signal that participating in the census is safe, secure and conveys the idea that everyone counts; and

Whereas, The Committee on Immigration Policy of the American Federation of Labor and Congress of Industrial Organizations (AFL-CIO) has recently passed a similar resolution calling on Congressional action giving amnesty to all undocumented immigrants currently residing in the United States as well as businesses which employ them; now therefore be it

Resolved, That the United States House of Representatives' Subcommittee on Immigration and Claims examine the issue of placing a temporary nationwide moratorium on any and all Immigration and Naturalization raids targeting undocumented immigrants while Census 2000 enumeration is underway.

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