



MINNESOTA COUNCIL
ON FOUNDATIONS

a community of grantmakers

February 12, 2024

Re: Census enumerator access

Dear Elections Finance and Policy Committee,

The Minnesota Council on Foundations is a statewide association of grantmakers focused on ensuring Minnesota has a strong charitable sector and an inclusive democracy where everyone can be seen, counted, and heard. We are committed to strengthening democratic systems and civic participation. As part of this, we support state decisions and investments that will prepare Minnesota for a full 2030 census count.

The Minnesota Council on Foundations fully supports HF3435 which promotes increased access for census enumerators. Removing date restrictions for enumerator access has many benefits. First, this allows for operational adjustments deemed necessary by the Census Bureau, such as the adjusted timelines for census collection during the COVID-19 pandemic. Secondly, allowing for broader enumerator access related to decennial census activities ensures that the Census Bureau can thoroughly prepare for and evaluate Census enumeration efforts. Removing the time constraints from enumerator access promotes a fuller and more inclusive count of Minnesotans into the future.

Thank you to the committee for your leadership in census priorities and for the opportunity to submit testimony. I am happy to answer any questions or provide further information.

Sincerely,
May Yang
Public Policy Manager
Minnesota Council on Foundations
myang@mcf.org