

Joint Committee on Election Laws

Bill Summary

BILL NUMBER Senate, No. 533

TITLE An Act to ensure a complete, accurate, and equitable census count

SPONSORS Senator Rausch

SUMMARY

This bill would establish the Massachusetts Census Equity Commission, an independent body designed to ensure that all residents of the Commonwealth are counted in the decennial census, with a particular focus on historically undercounted communities. Specifically, the Commission would develop and implement census outreach programs to increase awareness of the census, educate Bay Staters about the importance and significance of achieving an accurate census count (like Congressional seats and federal funding to the tune of \$2500 per person per year for a decade), alleviate concerns about perceived repercussions for participating in the census count, and engage undercounted communities in the census counting process.