



King County

John Wilson
King County Assessor

News Release

April 3, 2019

Wilson Joins National State & Local Leaders to Oppose Trump Citizenship Census Question

Joins 190 officials from 13 states, including 24 from Washington State, in opposing citizenship question

Statement from Assessor John Wilson:

"I am proud to add my name to the list of 190 bipartisan state and local elected officials and municipalities around the country. Including 24 city, county, and state officials from Washington, in challenging the addition of a citizenship question to the 2020 census.

On Monday, April 1, we filed an amicus brief in support of plaintiffs in *Department of Commerce v. New York*, currently before the U.S. Supreme Court, which addresses the important issue of whether a citizenship question should be added to the 2020 census. We argue that the addition of a citizenship question in the 2020 census will significantly impair the accuracy of the census, which determines the allocation of more than \$900 billion of federal funding.

The addition of a citizenship question will result in inaccurate census data and divert hundreds of millions of dollars away from vital programs that support public education, nutrition, and healthcare, victims of crime, community development, rehabilitation centers and unemployment insurance, among so many others. Put simply, the improper allocation of this funding—away from those who need it most—will negatively impact the lives of millions of Americans. These impacts will be felt by all Americans, in regions all across the country, from urban centers to rural neighborhoods, including in communities like ours.

For this reason, I urge the Supreme Court to affirm the decision of the lower court rejecting the addition of a citizenship question to the 2020 census and ensuring the proper allocation of federal funding to the communities and individuals who need and rely on that funding.”

BRIEF ATTACHED

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