



Pete Ricketts
Governor

STATE OF NEBRASKA

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June 4, 2019

Mr. President, Mr. Speaker, and
Members of the Legislature
State Capitol
Lincoln, NE 68509

Dear Mr. President and Members of the Legislature:

I am returning LB 436e without my signature and with my objections.

LB 436e was advanced from committee only ten days before the 106th Legislature, First Session adjourned Sine Die and is unnecessary. As the Department of Commerce notes in the 2020 Census Complete Count Committee Guide, Complete Count Committees (CCC) are volunteer committees. In Nebraska, communities are already coming together to voluntarily create Complete Count Committees. The cities of Grand Island, Lexington, Lincoln, Norfolk, Omaha, and Schuyler, Sarpy County, the Karen Society of Nebraska-Lincoln Chapter and the South Platte United Chambers of Commerce have each created local Complete Count Committees.

In addition, LB 436e gives inappropriate authority to a single program within the University system to create a statewide Complete Count Committee without any guidance, parameters, duties or goals from the state. Furthermore, the Complete Count activities recommended by the Department of Commerce, such as Census parades and Interfaith breakfasts, are not activities the University should be asked to focus its energy on.

The State of Nebraska is committed to a complete and accurate census, and I will support the Census Bureau in promoting Nebraskans to participate in the 2020 Census. I invite each Nebraska State Senator to join me in encouraging their constituents to participate in the 2020 Census.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Pete Ricketts", is written over a faint, larger version of the same signature.

Pete Ricketts
Governor