



WHEREAS, every ten (10) years, as mandated by the United States Constitution, the U.S. Census Bureau conducts a census in an effort to count every person living/residing in our Nation; and,

WHEREAS, April 1, 2020 is nationally recognized as Census Day by the U.S. Census Bureau; and,

WHEREAS, the Gaston County Board of Commissioners understands the importance of obtaining a complete and accurate count of its residents and the significant opportunity to participate in the Census 2020 Program; and,

WHEREAS, the data received from the census count, help local businesses, hospitals, schools, and non-profits, et cetera, plan for the future; and,

WHEREAS, moreover, the data, obtained as a result of the census, help in the distribution of over \$675 billion federal dollars annually to local governments and communities; and,

WHEREAS, it is estimated, when a resident is missed in the Census 2020, Gaston County could lose approximately \$1,800.00 to \$2,000.00, per person, per year or \$18,000.00 to \$20,000.00, per person, over the ten (10) year period towards grant funding and other various state revenues; and,

WHEREAS, Gaston County has partnered with the U.S. Census Bureau to raise the awareness to all segments of the County's population of the importance of Census 2020 to encourage participation; and,

WHEREAS, to accomplish the goal of a complete and accurate count, Gaston County, in conjunction with the U.S. Census Bureau, established a Census 2020 Complete Count Committee to develop strategies and initiatives to promote census awareness and education; and,

WHEREAS, official Census 2020 operations will begin with the U.S. Census Bureau mailing in mid-March, Census 2020 notifications to each residence to complete the survey either online, by phone or by mail; and,

WHEREAS, if a residence does not participate online, by phone, or by mail, the U.S. Census Bureau will eventually send a Census Enumerator to count the household in person between May and July 2020.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Gaston County Board of Commissioners proclaims the months of March and April 2020 be designated as

Census 2020 Awareness Months

in Gaston County.

Tracy L. Philbeck, Chairman

Chad Brown

Bob Hovis

Jack B. Brown, Vice-Chairman

Tom Keigher

Allen R. Fraley

Ronald E. Worley