**Resolution Urging the General Assembly and Governor to Assist Counties Required to Meet Deadlines to Reapportion County Board Districts Without Updated Federal Census Data**

**WHEREAS,** Illinois law requires that county board districts be redrawn every ten years; and

**WHEREAS,** county leaders utilize federal census data to properly reapportion county board districts; and

**WHEREAS,** the COVID-19 pandemic has interfered with the decennial census process and caused the U.S. Census Bureau to miss its statutory deadline of December 31, 2020, to deliver population counts to the President and Congress; and

**WHEREAS,** the delay in data also caused the U.S. Census Bureau to miss its April 1, 2021, deadline to send redistricting counts to the states; and

**WHEREAS,** the U.S. Census Bureau announced that it will not release the new census data until September 2021; and

**WHEREAS,** Illinois statute requires county board districts to be reapportioned by July 2021; and

**WHEREAS,** without updated federal census data counties will not be able to fulfill statutory obligations and timetables to redraw county board districts in a manner that utilizes the most recent and updated population counts; and

**WHEREAS,** the ability to reapportion county board districts using updated numbers is essential to preserving elected representation at the county level that reflects the true and accurate population within the county; and

**WHEREAS,** accurate representation is essential for giving voters a meaningful voice within their government and is therefore the foundation for maintaining the integrity and substance of representative government and our democratic institutions.

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED,** that (INSERT NAME) County urges the General Assembly and Governor to work with county leaders toward a viable solution intended to address the delay in federal census data and to ensure that county board districts can be reapportioned using the most accurate numbers or estimates available.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,** that the General Assembly and Governor enact a viable solution to the delay in federal census data in an expeditious manner that provides county leaders with the direction and certainty necessary to fulfill their statutory obligations to reapportion county board districts.

Adopted (INSERT DATE)