

## **Emily Persaud-Zamora**

Executive Director Silver State Voices Las Vegas, NV 89119

## **Chairwoman Brittney Miller**

Interim Committee on Reapportionment and Redistricting 401 S Carson St Carson City, NV 89701

Subject: Nevadans Count - Public Input Meeting on Tribal Land

Dear Chairwoman Miller and Committee Members:

Redistricting is vital to our democracy because it helps reflect how the population has changed over the past 10 years. Earlier this year, the Census Bureau released populations for each state, showing Nevada's total population increased by 404,063 residents in the last decade. When we take a closer look, we can see that the Black, Indigenous, people of color population led the growth.

As this committee may know, Nevada is ranked 5th in the nation with respect to the Latinx share of the population, and 4th in the nation with respect to the Asian share of the population. Moreover, Nevada is now the 3rd most diverse state in the country. Less known, but equally important is that the Black population in Nevada increased to over 375,000 (just over 12%) and the indigenous population increased to over 105,000 (an increase of over 89%).

To that last fact, I want to commend this committee for seeking to host at least one community meeting on Tribal lands. We encourage this committee to engage with indigenous organizations like the Las Vegas Indian Center and Native Voter Alliance Nevada to ensure this committee is able to learn about Tribal communities unique priorities and needs.

Nevada is strong because of its diversity, and this needs to be reflected in the redistricting process to ensure Nevadans are accurately represented. Our coalition Nevadans Count, made up of 19 nonpartisan 501(c)(3) nonprofit organizations, looks forward to participating in an inclusive and transparent redistricting process so that all Nevadans have a fair chance to elect their leaders of choice, not just next year, but for the next decade.

Thank you, **Emily Persaud-Zamora**Executive Director

Silver State Voices