

NCSL Redistricting Update – April 15, 2021

Alabama v. Department of Commerce

As many of you know, Alabama filed a [lawsuit](#) challenging the Census Bureau's implementation of [differential privacy](#) and the delayed release of 2020 census data. On Monday, the federal judge allowed [sixteen states](#) to file amici curiae briefs in support of Alabama's challenge to the Bureau's use of differential privacy, a mathematical method that would inject noise to the census data to protect privacy. Other amici briefs have been filed in this case in support of both parties.

On Tuesday, the Department of Commerce and the Census Bureau filed its response and other documents: [Defendants' response without appendices](#); [Defendants' response with appendices](#) (including a declaration from John Abowd); [declaration of James Whitehorne](#); and [declaration of Michael Thieme](#).

Colorado RFI

The Colorado Independent Congressional Redistricting Commission has issued a request for information for legal services (RFI). The RFI is posted on the [Colorado Redistricting Commission Website](#) or [click here](#). All proposals should be submitted by 5:00 pm (Mountain) on April 23, 2021. Inquiries and submittals should be directed to: Jeremiah Barry, (303) 866-4341, jerry.barry@state.co.us.

NCSL's April 23 Census Update meeting

The next [2020 census update](#) meeting is on Friday, April 23 at 2pm ET/1pm CT/Noon MT/11am PT. The meeting will focus on the latest updates on the delivery of the apportionment counts, the P.L. data and the next release of Privacy Protected Microdata Files (PPMF), which can be used by data analysts to determine the impact of the bureau's chosen method of disclosure avoidance, differential privacy, on data quality. If you would like to attend this meeting, please [click here](#) to register.

NCSL's Census Delays webpage

We have recently added three new tabs to our [2020 Census Delays and the Impact on Redistricting](#) webpage. These additions cover how states are responding to the census delays, legislation and litigation.

NCSL's redistricting seminar in Salt Lake City

NCSL's final [redistricting seminar](#) will be held on August 12-14 in Salt Lake City, Utah. This 2-day event will be a fast and furious in-person meeting before census data is delivered to states. More details on the location, registration and agenda will be coming soon.