

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
WESTERN DISTRICT OF LOUISIANA
LAFAYETTE DIVISION**

THE STATE OF LOUISIANA,
By and through its Attorney General,
Elizabeth B. Murrill, et al.

Plaintiffs,

v.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF
COMMERCE, et al.,

Defendants.

No. 6:25-cv-00076-DCJ-DJA

JOINT STATUS REPORT

Plaintiffs, the States of Louisiana, Kansas, Ohio, and West Virginia, and Defendants, the U.S. Department of Commerce, Secretary of Commerce Howard W. Lutnick, the U.S. Census Bureau, and Acting Director of the Census Bureau Ron S. Jarmin, jointly submit this status report pursuant to the Court’s March 6, 2025, Order, ECF No. 48.¹ Defendants respectfully propose to update the Court with status reports every 60 days.

1. On January 17, 2025, Plaintiffs filed a Complaint challenging the lawfulness of the method by which the U.S. Census Bureau “count[ed] the whole number of persons in each State,” U.S. CONST. amend. XIV, § 2, during the 2020 Decennial Census. See Compl., ECF No. 1; see also 13 U.S.C. § 141(a) (assigning responsibility for the Decennial Census to the Secretary of Commerce, who oversees the Census Bureau).

¹ Under Fed. R. Civ. P. 25(d), Secretary Howard W. Lutnick was automatically substituted as a party for Gina M. Raimondo, and Acting Director Ron S. Jarmin was automatically substituted as a party for Robert L. Santos.

2. On March 3, 2025, Defendants moved to stay the litigation, noting that “[n]ew leadership at the Department of Commerce is in the process of onboarding and has not yet had time to determine its approach to the Residence Rule and this litigation following the issuance of Executive Order 14148.” Def.’s Mot. to Stay, ECF No. 46 at 2.

3. On March 6, 2025, the Court granted Defendants’ Motion to Stay, struck the pending Motions to Intervene during the pendency of the stay, ECF No. 3, ECF No. 30, and ordered the Parties to submit a joint status report on May 2, 2025. Order, ECF No. 48.

4. The Parties have conferred, and believe that continuing the stay will conserve party and judicial resources and promote the efficient and orderly disposition of this case by ensuring that the litigation proceeds with the informed views of current Department of Commerce and Department of Justice leadership.

5. The Parties propose to file another joint status report on July 1, 2025, which is 60 days from May 2.

Dated: May 2, 2025

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