



Written by [D. Michael DeRidder](#) on May 9, 2024

## Democrats Vote Against Citizenship Questions on U.S. Census

House Democrats voted unanimously against [H.R. 7109 - Equal Representation Act](#). The bill would require questions on the decennial census about the citizenship status of each member of a household. Representation in Congress and Electoral College votes are based on U.S. Census data, which currently includes non-citizens.

Representative Daniel Webster (R-Fla.) said the bill is commonsense, [stating on X](#):

It's commonsense, only U.S. citizens should be used to determine the representation of Americans in Congress. That's why I voted to pass H.R. 7109, a bill that adds a citizenship question to the census and protects equal representation for U.S. citizens.



Bill Oxford/iStock/Getty Images Plus

Representative Delia Ramirez (D-Ill.) claimed the bill is unconstitutional, and alleges it is intended to intimidate illegal immigrants, [stating on X](#):

The Census Bureau has a constitutionally mandated responsibility to count the number of persons in the United States. Today, Republicans forced a vote on H.R. 7109, an unconstitutional bill intended to make people afraid and to discourage their participation in the Census. H.R.... [pic.twitter.com/uwnz1uZrQX](https://pic.twitter.com/uwnz1uZrQX)

— Congresswoman Delia Ramirez (@repedeliaramirez) [May 9, 2024](#)



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