**Edition 3 – August 2021**

**Civic Engagement Kingdom Group Bulletin**

*(Provided to inform you about activities and issues of public concern.)*

**COVID Rent Relief**

Federal assistance is available to help cover rent, utilities, or other housing-related costs. Visit the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau [**Find Help with Rent and Utilities page**](https://protect-eu.mimecast.com/s/b4nVCyoo2SRmNGAtNAvz4) to find a program near you before these programs end.

**“LONG COVID” & ADA Guidance**

Some people recover quickly from COVID while others have long impairments. This condition is known as “Long Covid.”  Persons suffering from “Long Covid” are entitled to equal opportunities and rights under federal nondiscrimination laws. HHS and DOJ have issued guidance on [**"Long COVID" and Disability Rights Under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA)**](https://protect-eu.mimecast.com/s/5vEwCANNKczJ9xGS2fVuf). The guidance provides clarity on how disability nondiscrimination laws apply to certain people affected by COVID-19. Click on the above link for more details.

**2020 Census Data**

Based on the 2020 census, North Carolina had a population increase and gained one additional seat in the US House of Representatives. To view the results for each state, click on the link below. <https://www.census.gov/data/tables/2020/dec/2020-apportionment-data.html> .

**CODE** **RED Redistricting**

NC will soon begin drawing new district maps for elections, which can impact African American communities and our access to various resources. North Carolina Black Alliance has an education program that offers training to understand and to monitor the redistricting process. The program is called “**CODE** **RED Redistricting**.” To learn more about the redistricting process and becoming advocates for fair maps, visit <https://ncblackalliance.org/Code-Red/>.

**NC House Bill 805**

The NC General Assembly introduced legislation, House Bill 805, to increase penalties for rioting in NC.  It is believed this bill will keep people from engaging in peaceful and constitutionally allowed protests. The bill was vetoed by Governor Cooper. If passed by the NC Legislature with a super majority, the bill would authorize law enforcement to make arrests when they perceive an “imminent threat of disorderly and violent conduct.” To learn more, click on the following link: <https://www.ncleg.gov/Sessions/2021/Bills/House/PDF/H805v3.pdf>.

To share your opinion, contact your lawmakers at <https://ncleg.gov/FindYourLegislators>.

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