To amend title 13, United States Code, to require that any questionnaire used in determining the decennial census of population shall contain an option for respondents to indicate citizenship status or lawful presence in the United States, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JULY 28, 2017

Mr. King of Iowa introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform

A BILL

To amend title 13, United States Code, to require that any questionnaire used in determining the decennial census of population shall contain an option for respondents to indicate citizenship status or lawful presence in the United States, and for other purposes.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “Census Accuracy Act of 2017”.
SEC. 2. CITIZENSHIP OR LAWFUL PRESENCE STATUS ON CENSUS QUESTIONNAIRES.

Section 141 of title 13, United States Code, is amended—

(1) by redesignating subsection (g) as subsection (h); and

(2) by inserting after subsection (f) the following:

“(g) In conducting the 2020 decennial census and each decennial census thereafter, the Secretary shall include in any questionnaire distributed or otherwise used for the purpose of determining the total population by States—

“(1) a checkbox or other similar option for respondents to indicate whether the respondent is a citizen or national of the United States, is lawfully admitted for permanent residence in the United State, is an alien who otherwise has lawful status under the immigration laws, or none of these; and

“(2) in connection with the option relating to status under the immigration laws, a question regarding which Federal program or provision of law accorded the respondent such status.”.