

# Opinion

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have not included a citizenship question since

U.S. Constitution requires a census counting number of residents every 10 years.

including all residents in the census would in all manner of confusion, to state the obvious. It causes economic and social turmoil, and makes a very difficult job that much harder, and more expensive. Yet Trump doesn't care; he cares only about winning the next election, the good of the country as a whole be damned.

Who does care deeply about the 2020 Census? Paterson Mayor Andre Sayegh, who has made getting a "complete count" of city residents a priority. Paterson is one of those cities that have welcomed immigrants for generations. They worked in the city's silk mills and machine shops and provided a sense of identity that fits the city to this day, as it attempts a renaissance.

Paterson's count in 2020 could put the city over 100,000 residents, which would earn it the designation of a "Class 1 City," making it eligible for federal funding for parks and roads, and other infrastructure that sorely needs.

At the same time, this is the tipping point for Paterson," Mayor Sayegh said Monday during a meeting with the editorial board of The Record and NorthJersey.com. "It's absolutely vital we get a complete count."

The Supreme Court is expected to rule later this year on the "citizenship question," as it reviews a court ruling by U.S. District Judge Jesse Furumore who said Ross's call to add the citizenship question was "unlawful" because of "a veritable smorgasbord of classic, clear-cut" violations of the Administrative Procedure Act.

The administration has not made the case that the question is needed for any reason, other than to make our lives miserable. Indeed, the question could cause more damage to our urban centers, where more diverse populations reside, and where residents, regardless of their "status," have found employment and woven into the fabric of their communities.

We have stated before, there are legitimate immigration issues to be debated, and resolved. Requirement to answer a query about citizenship on a questionnaire is not about that debate; it is about demagoguery and scoring political points and finding one more way to divide the country.

## YOUR VIEWS

### Trump's double-talk on health care

When Donald Trump ran for president, he made many promises, including some about health care. He said, if elected, that no one would lose coverage, that there would be insurance for everybody, and that health care would be a lot less expensive.

At the president's direction, his Justice Department will not be defending the ACA in court. If the courts decide to strike down Obamacare, more than 20 million Americans could lose their health insurance. Another 130 million could be denied coverage, or be forced to pay significantly more, when the ACA mandate on pre-existing conditions disappears. Millions of young people who, because of the ACA, are covered till age 26 on their parents' plans could also lose coverage.

The president and the Republicans say they have a better plan for health care. Where is it? If it's so much better, why aren't they broadcasting this to the American people?

A September 2018 Kaiser poll found that 75% of Americans support pre-existing conditions coverage, and 52% are worried that repeal of the ACA would result in them, or a loved one, having to pay more for health care. The Pew 2018 midterm poll discovered that three-quarters of registered voters cited health care as an important issue.

Fifty-eight percent of registered voters said health care affected the way they voted in the 2018 midterms. A 2017 study also found that people in Ohio, Michigan, North Dakota, Kentucky, and West Virginia — states Trump won in 2016 — would be among those most affected if the ACA is struck down.

Elections have consequences. Educate yourself and exercise your right to vote this year, on June 4 and Nov. 5, and in every election.

*Dianne Douthat, Wayne*

### On wrestler Suriano's stalwart efforts

Let's congratulate Nick Suriano of Paramus, Bergen Catholic, and now Rutgers for his Division I NCAA wrestling championship victory in Pittsburgh. Nick's work ethic and training and focus are amazing. The

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running, making weight, lifting weights, and simplifying his dedication — he goes through some ups and downs, but he kept battling to be better and remained calm and has handled the pressure with confidence and humility. It seems to be calm and wise beyond his years due to the discipline he has acquired from the most difficult sports. He can be a role model for many people.

So let's wish him much success whatever path he chooses after graduation, Nick; we are all proud of being the great example that you are.

*Rob Smilari, Montvale*

### Follow the money on charter schools

You mean charter schools can't get the money earmarked for education? If you invest, fail to perform and get no consequences, stay out of the NJEA all at the same time? What are you waiting for?

This was touted as the cure for failing schools in urban districts: a public school like mercury (quicksilver) was used to treat syphilis. Then again, today they use it for lung cancer.

Follow the money, Mr. Dillingham.  
*John Kaufman, Fair Lawn*

ump's actions earn 'This man is a charlatan'